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The INDIAN

Vol. 3
1973

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THE VOICE OF 10 MILLION OVERSEAS INDIANS

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GIRLS EDUCATION

Jayanti is married to an Overseas Indian and lives in Bangkok. Every morning while her husband goes to his shop in Sampheng, she sits at home looking after her two children, cooks a little bit, plays cards occasionally, but still there is lot of time left while she has nothing to do and feels bored. Jayanti's present life is far from the dreams which she had during her college days, because she is a B.A., LLB. and was planning to be a lawyer.

Sheila is another example—same circumstances. She is a doctor and did her M.B.B.S. from the Delhi University. Today she is a simple housewife in Kualalumpur. Her husband is working for a large international corporation and for next five years Kualalumpur is their home.

I can go on citing examples of many such girls who are intelligent, brilliant, progressive and above all have creative abilities. Thousands of rupees were spent on their education and upbringing. Sometimes to get an admission in a school or university of choice was a nightmare for parents. Large amounts were spent, influence was exerted and even career sacrificed by the father in order to get Jayantis and Sheilas admitted in educational institutions of proper standing at proper location. But their education and professional training has not been put to any social use.

The purpose of education, in the final analysis, is to develope in children rational judgement and social concern. The purpose of giving them professional training is to enable them to serve the community better. When girls sit at home after receiving education and training, the society loses a great deal. By educating girls to get higher degrees and professional qualifications what are we achieving? Is it social status we want to achieve or we want them to wear degrees as arm bands? I am raising issues without taking any position on the subject.

I asked other day a close friend of mine whose daughter is in second year M.B.B.S., whether he was seriously considering for her to start practising medicine when she finishes her training. "of course not" was his prompt reply. Then why was he spending a large sum of money on her education—there was no clear reply and I found him rather confused and perplexed.

We must give education to our children, but our objectives must be clear. If we want our girls to be doctors, lawyers, engineers or business executives, then they should pursue that course. Talents of girls can be channeled with equal ease in other careers such as interior decoration, cookery, flower arrangements and other suitable careers. Career planning is necessary for all youth, it is particularly important in girls' education. Let there be no drift. Let us think over the subject.

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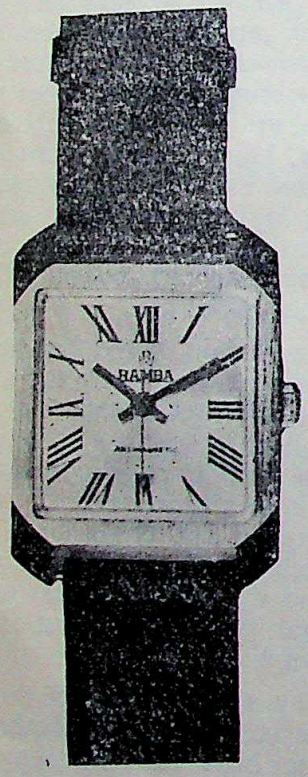

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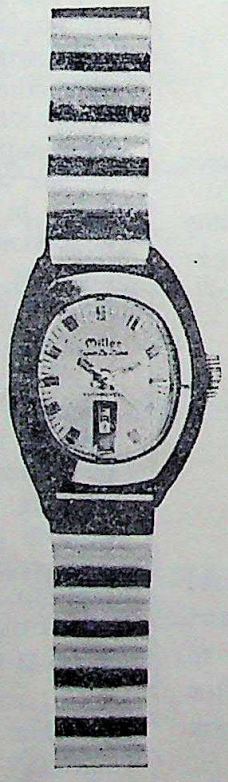

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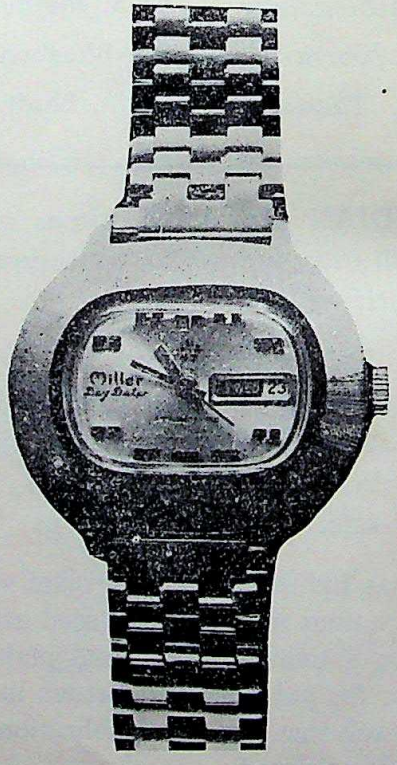

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The Indian

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VIEWPOINT

by K. N. Vaid

Welcome Australia

It has fallen on Gough Whitlam to dust out cobwebs of isolation, cynicism and traditional conservatism in Australia, and to lead his country on the path of reality in world politics. Within two weeks of labours' assuming power in Australia, Whitlam has established contacts with China, announced a visit to Tokyo, withdrawn forces from Vietnam, accepted Indian ocean as peace zone, and declared that he will not be tied to the apron-strings of Washington and London. Whitlam has pronounced that Australia is much closer to Asia and that it will sail with Asians on turbulent waters of international politics. These new policies were long overdue and Asians heartily welcome new Australia to their circle of friendship.

However, overwhelming mandate given to him by his country, does not necessarily mean that Whitlam is going to ride smooth, both at home and abroad.

Internally, whitlam is faced with formidable wall of traditional conservatism. To many Australians, particularly the middle and older aged, nothing existing between Perth and London. Their only contact with Asia was during the war, either as victorious or retreating armies or behind the prisoners of war camps. Since then, they never cared to see the grand human drama that is being played in Asia. To them Asia was something sinster, too complicated, too dirty, too uncouth: and they shut their eyes, ears as well as gates of country on Asians. Australia went out of its way to recruit semi-literate and unskilled Europeans but refused to accept qualified engineers and doctors from Asia. A top Japanese doctor told me that in early sixties he went to Sydney to teach and practice at the medical school there. He was just tolerated by colleagues, neglected by students and boycotted by patients. He returned home. People who flew to Tokyo and waited in the anti-chambers of the doctor were unwilling to be seen as his patients back home. A top polytechnic of Australia was forced to accept a mediocre white professor in preference to a highly qualified Singaporean. There are Asians working in Australia but they have been accepted more in a spirit of patronizing and christian charity—a spirit that was recently denied to Uganda Asians.

Whitlam will have to work hard to shake off fear, suspicion and isolation in his countrymen. An Asian weekly wrote recently that "the people of Asia are not massed at the flood gates ready to descend on Australia, either as emigrants or invaders."

Friendship cannot be by standing across the fence. It grow's in an atmosphere of mutual trust and confidence, involves meeting of minds—not just a handshake can be promoted through straight forward policies—not just by window dressing.

Asians welcome New Australia, understand reasons for her desire to come closer to them, appreciate the genuineness of Whitlam, and hope that White Australia becomes less racialist so that they could respond to her with their traditional smile and trust.

The Indian Ocean

The United Nations has declared the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace. By a formidable majority, the U.N. General Assembly passed a resolution to this effect; it was moved by Sri Lanka.

India has always stood for a peaceful Indian Ocean though cynics say that her growing naval strength, coupled with 25 years treaty of friendship with Russia posed a danger to small Asian countries who prompted by China got this resolution passed.

It is true that India is building her naval srength. It is also true that India regards the presence of American fleet in Indian Ocean as a threat to her and therefore she tolerates the presence of Russian fleet there. But it is absurd to suggest that India seeks to dominate the Indian Ocean waters just as the British did for over 150 years. India has neither the desire nor the ability to support such an action. On the contrary, the reality of the situation is somewhat different.

Amongst all nations in & around the Indian Ocean, only China, Japan, India & Ausralia have the potential to police the Indian Ocean. At present none of these countries have such an ability. Japan is developing its naval strength quietly and may as well be the first amongst four to show up along with Americans and Russians on the Indian Ocean waters. China will back up America and India will support Russia. If India and China can come ogether, then both Russia and America stand challenged in the Indian Ocean. In the absence of Sino-Indian amity, Russians and Americans both will stay there. Their vote in the General Assembly was a lip service to a sentiment with no desire to honour their vote. And what can small nations do? Sri Lanka may wave the U.N. resolution to both Russian and American fleets but she can't drive them out with a piece of paper. Asian might is needed to keep super-powers out of the waters. And this force is unlikely to emerge without friendship between China and India.

Indian Ocean will not become a lake of peace merely by passing a resolution. Nor can there be lasting peace if super powers keep interfering into the affairs of Asian nations. Solution to the situation is work for an understanding between China and India. It is the strength of these two Asian giants that can guarantee peace and security of all other Asian nations. Peace just does get established merely by wishing for it.

Death of a Titan

Chakravarti Rajagopalachari passed away on December 25, 1972 at the age of 94. He was one of the last Vanguards of India's freedom movement and a close lieutenant of Mahatma Gandhi. He succeeded Lord Mountbatten as Governor General of India and had the honour to proclaim the Republic of India on January 26, 1950. He was decorated with Bharat Ratna. C.R. joined Gandhiji shortly after the latter's return to India and continued to be a vital political force till a few days before his death.

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He was a gifted politician, a decisive statesman, an outstanding administrator, a zealous ascetic, a trenchant journalist, a subtle philosopher, a master of sharp wit and humour, and the most convincing inetrpreter of Hindu literature to the Western world.

He was given various titles by peopie. Munshi called him Bhishma Pitamaha of modern India. Atul Bihari Vajpai called him modern day Chanakya. Vinoba Bnave addressed him as 'Thirumahan' meaning 'the noble son' and a title with which Tamilians remember Lord Rama.

During last 15 years of his life, Rajaji took to rewriting in English Ramayana and Mahabharata, both of which are now prescribed text books in five top American universities. He also translated some of the upanishads and was interpreting Geeta at the time of his death.

After retiring as Governor—General, he started a weekly newspaper called 'Swarajya'. Like Gandhiji's Harijan, Swarajya" became Rajajis mouth—piece. Intellectuals and politicians, administrators and social workers all looked forward to their copy of "Swarajya" every Monday morning. Through this weekly, Rajaji communicated with his countrymen and influenced their thinking.

Rajaji was a rebel throughout his life. He was generally unpopular with the Congress High Command but stayed on the top because he was indispensible and always the most rational voice in an emotion ridden political movement. Churchill once said that India had only two politicians. Rajaji and Jinnah. "Others are saints and philoosphers and mediocres." Rajaji became the first chief Minister of Madras in 1937 when the Congress assumed power in the provinces. Sales Tax was introduced for the first time in India by him. In 1946, he became a member of the interim government. A year later, he joined the first cabinet of free India. Then he became governor of west Bengal and moved back to New Delhi to occupy the Rashtrapati Bhavan.

He was an anti communist, and called them "public enemies from A to Z." He was also against state controls and was vehmently opposed to what he called 'Congress dictatorship' in India. He founded the Swatantra Party with a view to create opposition to the Congress. In 1967, the DMK swept polls in Tamil Nadu, mainly because of Rajaji's blessings.

Whatever he did, he did with distinction and excelled himself. He was both controversal and respected at the same time through out his life and he cared for neither. His was a life of an Arya lived in a style and pattern as prescribed in the Vedas.

Like Bhishma, he was mentally active till the end. A day before his death, he called one of the persons sitting near his bed and said, "why do you look sad? I have not given my appointment to Yama for today."

In Rajaji, India lost one of her most illustrous sons. With Rajaji passing away, an era comes to an end —the era of Gandhi and Nehru.

DROUGHT

Most of my readers may already know that India is facing a drought this year due to no rains in many parts of the country. Firstly, there is an acute shortage of power all over India. Electricity is mostly generated from hydraulic sources and water level in most lakes and dams has gone very low. Consequently, drastic power cuts have been applied. In Bombay, people have been asked not to use air conditioners, fans, cooking ranges and other appliances. Industrial power supply was reduced to 25 percent of the normal requirements. North India has also been similarly affected. Parties who failed to comply with power cut instructions were heavily penalized, in may cases their power supply has been similarly affected.

The position is particularly bad in Maharashtra where rains failed to come for 3 consecutive years now. In Aurangabad side, one does not find even a blade of green grass for miles around. People gathered their cattle and moved away to far off places. A large number of poeple have descended on Bombay and they can be found all over the city, sleeping on roadsides, eating somehow and waiting for ranis to go back home.

In Bombay, the government has imposed severe restriction on food, parties exceeding 100 guests are not allowed to be served with any item made of wheat, rice and cereals. Parties where guests number between 25-100 can be served with only 3 items of snacks —, one sweet and 2 farsans. Parties of less than 25 may be entertained with one item of wheat or rice. This is the usual wedding season in Western India and it is, by and large, quiet period this year. Wedding invitations are sent but guests are asked to bring their ration cards. Public entertainment is limited to a cup of tea or coffee or lemon juice.

In the country side, relief work is in progress. People have been employed on building roads. dams and highways or in clearing forestry. Those who have swarmed Bombay/ Poona area are being induced to return home with offers of guaranteed work and travel money. Free kitchens have been opened at some places.

The calamity is being met by the Government of Maharashtra with courage, determination and planned foresight. There is no panic either in government circles or amongst those affected. No one has been allowed to die due to starvation. Industrialists and businessmen are giving full support to the government in its relief work.

The government deserves all praise and credit for the manner in which the situation is being met.

Most of my readers have contacts with and connections in Bombay. I like to appeal to them to open their purses and send money to Bombay for relief work. The remittance may be made to the Governor of Maharashtra, Raj Niwas, Bombay. All receipts will be publically acknowledged.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Sir,

In the November 1972 issue of the Indian, Hong Kong, we read the obituary notice of "Datuk Gian Singh." From the photograph, of Dato Ajit Singh, as we used to know him in Kuala Lumpur (1952-62), we realised wih a stock that it was he. (Gian Singh & Co. was the name of his prosperous firm in Kuala Lumpur.) We looked up our Malaysia album, replete with photograpns of the Datuk and his family, on various occasions, including the large crowd of Indian, Malaysian and European friends that came to see us off at the railway station. Little did we know then that that was the last time we would see the great Sardarji in life.

The premature demise of Datuk Ajit Singh is an irreparable loss not only to his large, charming family but to his many Malaysian friends, and numerous others, who have lived in other lands. I recall the late fifties and early sixties when he used to be the lynchpin of the Selangar Indian Chamber of Commerce and the Selangar Indian Association, and how he set an example to the Indian community, by identifying his interests with those of Malaysia—hence the Datuk and other honours conferred on him by the Malaysian Govenrment. But "those whom gods love die young."

Sannath Dhar.

Ankara

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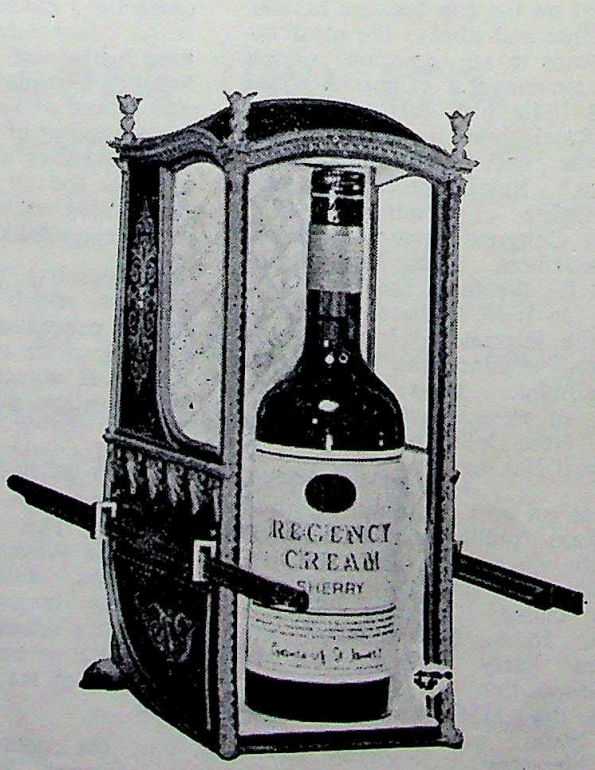

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India's man of steel

She lives for the poor

SPOTLIGHT ON INDIANS

Mhd. Abdul Wadud Khan

Mother Teresa

MHD. ABDUL WADUD KHAN

Token of the Indian government's resolve to bring to bear on the public-sector industry all the expertise available in the private sector is the appointment of Mohammed Abdul Wadud Khan, 51, as chairman of the newly-formed holding company for India's steel industry.

Wadud Khan was the highly successful general manager of the Tata Oil Mills Company Ltd. (Tomco) and director of several Tata companies. Born in Patiala near New Delhi, he was a Marxist in his youth, and participated in the independence movement in 1942 and 1943. He studied microbiology at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and joined the Tata group 17 years ago.

Wadud Khan is credited with Tomco's exceptional growth in the last five years. He raised the company's sales and other income from about $23 million in 1965-66 to nearly $70 million in 1970-71 and more than $80 million last year—more than doubling profits over the same period. Not only did the company beat off determined attacks on its markets in such consumer products as detergents, cosmetics, toilet preparations and vegetable oils from the Indian subsidiaries of well-known foreign companies; it captured new markets of its own.

Faced with restrictions imposed on the company's traditional fields of operation by a government keen to encourage small-scale entrepreneurs, Wadud Khan diversified into other fields previously unknown to the Tata group. One of the more successful of these new fields was the shrimps industry, where Tomco built up a large purchasing network that gathers fishermen's catch all the way down India's west coast, from Saurashtra in the north to Kerala in the south. The company has a contract with one of the US's largest distributors of frozen seafoods to prepare and package shrimps in the importers' brand name and ship without any further processing directly to US markets. Tomco's exports of shrimps rose 70 percent last year.

As czar of the steel holding company. Wadud Khan will be moving from consumer to heavy industry —managing a corporate concern that has some $3,500 million worth of assets but runs at 60 percent capacity, loses millions of dollars a year, and is a large blot on the industrial map of India. He moves to his new job for half his previous salary but greatly increased authority and prestige. He will be allowed to select his own team, and has been promised freedom from red tape and bureaucratic control. His brief is not merely to nationalize the steel industry but making it productive and viable.

MOTHER TERESA

Mother Teresa, the 62-year-old nun gave up a life of luxury and comfort 43 years ago in Albania to come to Calcutta as a nun and work among the poor. The anguish of the slums touched her heart and she took a momentous decision to leave the cloistered shelter of the convent and live and work in the harsh world of Calcutta's streets.

Out of this realisation was born the Congregation of the Missionary Sisters of Charity. Today, this Mission runs 60 centres in Calcutta alone. There are 70 more centres in 17 other cities.

Mother Teresa described the uphill climb that the Mission faced in the beginning. Struggles and difficulties have been a normal part of her life. For example, when Nirmal Hriday, one of the better-known of her institutions that looks after dying destitutes in Calcutta, was given an abandoned dharamsala near the Kali Temple by the Municipal Corporation, the temple priests launched an agitation against her. But when one of them fell seriously ill, the loving care with which she took care of him, changed their minds.

What was her reaction when she heard that the Nehru Award was being given to her, Her reply was characteristic of the humility that has marked her life and her mission. "Awards are a momentary elation. Public honour is not something personal. To me, it symbolises public recognition of the Mission's work among the people, as the medium employed by God to do His will." Among the other international awards she has received are the Magsaysay Award, the Pope John XXIII Peace Prize, and the Kennedy Award. She has also received the Padma Shri.

Mother Teresa said she was greatly encouraged by the response to her appeal for funds. Her Mission is run entirely by contributions from people, in this country and abroad. For instance, school-children in Europe send their pocket money to buy milk, bread and vitamins for the centres in Calcutta, Some of Mother Teresa's orphans have sponsors abroad who pay for their education and upbringing. Most of them are orphans who have been picked up from the streets where they had been abandoned by their parents.

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Amrita Sher - Gill

She was India's first outstanding modern painter. Born of Sikh father and Hungarian mother, she studied at Paris and returned to India to paint some of the immortal pictures. She died young at the age of 28 but she left behind a legend, a tradition for hundreds of others to feel inspired.

by

Iqbal Singh

It was a delicious summer morning. The year 1937. And the place—Simla. the summer capital of the British Raj in India. The overnight mist was beginning to lift, and the sun had just crept through the bosky cumulus. And Simla appeared to be wreathed in cool sunshine. The fashionable shopping centre, the Mall, was astir with activity. The idle elite was there — Indian princess in their scintillating diamond earrings, Indian women in their saris in all the colours of the rainbow, and their Anglo-saxon sisters in the latest summer fashion that had percolated across the seas from Paris and London. Men in their tweeds or the odd civil servant in his morning suit and top-hat. And the common folk in their conglomeration of Indian costumes ranging from the homespun dhoti of the Bengali from Calcutta and the Tamil from South India to the baggy trousers of those hailing from the Punjab and the North West Frontier. Some, who were too lackadaisical to bestir themselves, were being carried in their well-appointed rickshaws, pulled and pushed by gorgeously liveried coolies. For the cognoscenti, the destination seemed to be the fashionable cafe at the end of the road.

Inside the cafe, each one to his chosen aperitif; and there was a gentle hum of conversation to the accompaniment of a Viennese waltz being played by the cafe orchestra.

In the midst of it all, there gambolled up the staircase and stood poised on the threshold for a fleeting moment a beautiful damsel—slim, petite and svelte—and that was Amrita Sher-Gill.

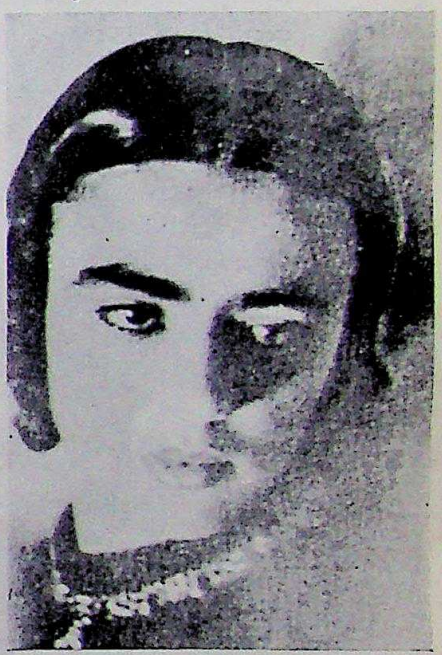
Amrita was wearing a vivid green sari with a flaming red blouse, heavy Tibetan earrings encrusted with glistening lapis lazuli being her only ornament. Her face was luminous, mobile and immensely alive. Her eyes sparkled with laughter—laughter that could be full of merriment, irony or sheer good humour. She had raven black hair, severely parted in the centre.

A mixed heritage

Amrita Sher-Gill was born in Hungary, on the 30th of January, 1913. She was the daughter of Sardar Umrao Singh Majithia, a Sikh nobleman, who was a philosopher and a well-known Persian and Sanskrit scholar. Her mother, Antoinette, a Hungarian, was an accomplished musician and a reputed opera singer.

They came back to India in April 1921. Amrita was then a little over seven years old. On arrival the family settled in Summer Hill in Simla, and Amrita began her education—a sort of education that the children of Indian aristocrats then used to receive. It included music and lessons in drawing. Soon after, however, Amrita's parents became conscious of the fact that her interest in drawing and painting was far more than that of an average child. They took her to Florence in Italy for training in art and in January 1924, she joined the School of Santa Anunciata there. But her stay there was short-lived. Only a few months later, she was expelled from the school. Why? Because she was discovered drawing nude women!

Back in India, from June 1924 to 1929, she spent her days either on the cool heights of her parents' house in picturesque Summer Hill near Simla or at her family estate in the sylvan surroundings of the little village of Saraya, in the district of Gorakhpur in Uttar Pradesh, then the United Provincess. These were formative years and were to leave a deep impress on her young mind, because, in years to come, the hillmen and women of Simla and the simple village folk of Saraya were to be her models for some of her immortal canvases.



Amrita Sher-Gill as she looked during her stay in Paris.

Nurturing of talent

In April 1929, Amrita and her family arrived in Paris. She worked under Pierre Vaillant at the Grand Chaumiere, but very soon after, was accepted as a pupil by the great Pro-

Mr Iqbal Singh is a free lance journalist writer for radio and television. He was formerly station director for All India Radio at Port Blair, in the Andaman Islands, off the east coast of India.

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fessor Lucien Simon at Ecole Nationale des Beaux Arts. Lucien Simon, though a very exating task master, was also a very perceptive teacher. He was to prove prophetic about her, because he once told her. "One day I shall be proud that you have been a pupil of mine."

Amrita Sher-Gill was at Ecole des Beaux Arts for nearly three years. But each year was full of achievement. In 1934, a large composition entitled 'Young Girls" was adjudged to be the "Picture of the Year", and she was elected Associate of the Grand Salon. She was then only 19, the youngest ever to be thus honoured. She was also the first Indian—as a matter of fact the first Asian—to achieve this dsitinction.

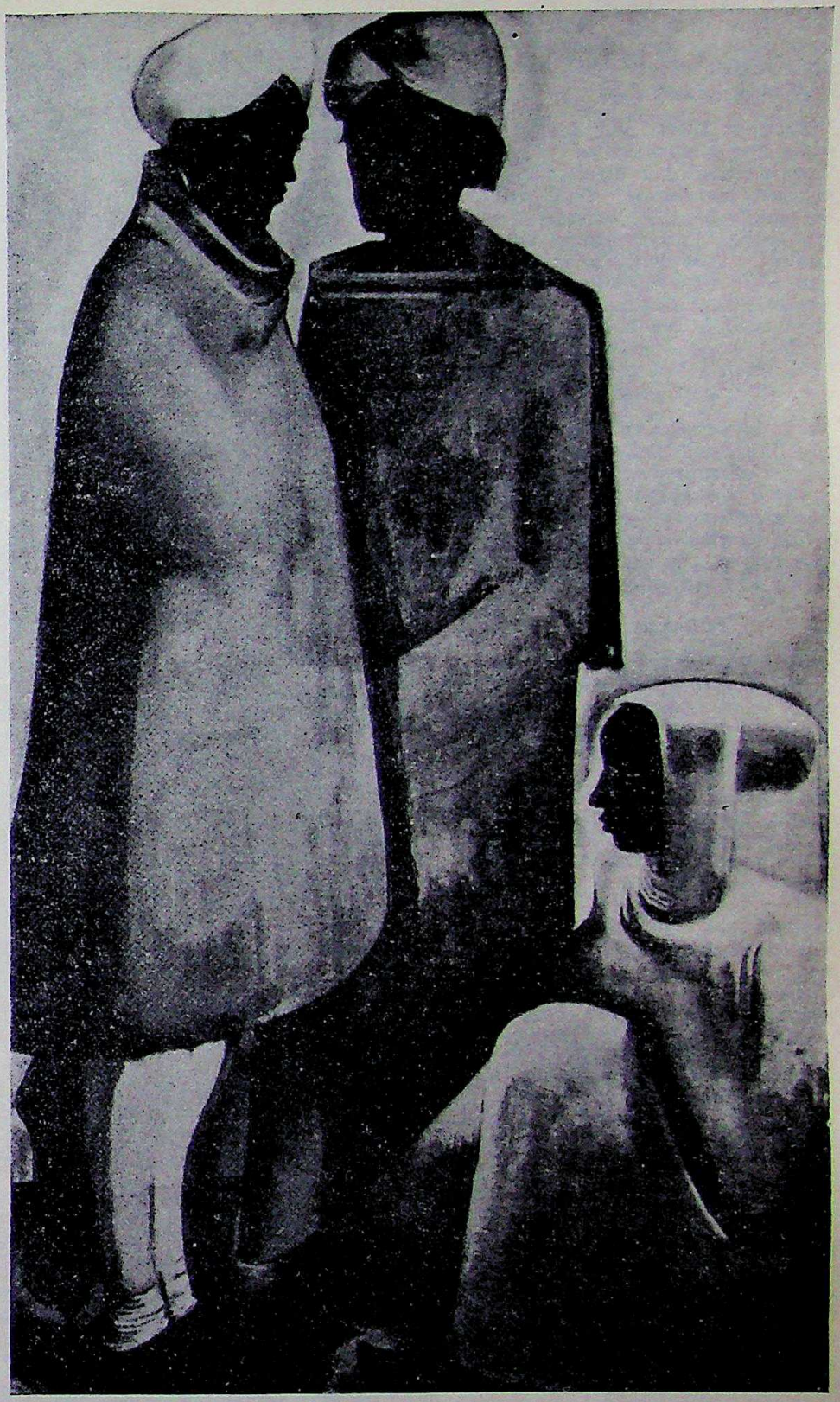
But the awards, the distinctions and the honours notwithstanding, she began to feel that Euorpe was not the place for her. She felt that her future as a painter lay in India. She began 'to be haunted by an intense longing to return to India", as she put it, 'feeling in some strange inexplicable way that there lay my destiny as a painter".

So, in November 1934, Amrita and her parents were back in India.

Recognition in India

In September 1935, Amrita Sher-Gill sent ten pictures to the Simla Fine Arts Society's annual art exhibition. Of these, five were accepted and five rejected. One of those selected was awarded the prize for being the best figure study in that show. But among those rejected there was one that had been shown at the Paris Grand Salon, and the critics in Europe had spoken very highly of it. Amrita was outraged. She returned the award. Declining to accept the award, she wrote, "I should be glad to waive it in favour of some other more deserving artist, who, I have no doubt, would feel distinction—and whose work would correspond more than mine does to the traditional conventionality, so carefully preserved for the last sixty-three years, by the judges of the Simla Fine Arts Exhibition".

In March 1936, Amrita Sher-Gill won two prizes for her self-portraits in the Delhi Fine Arts Exhibition. But it was later that year in Bombay, in November 1938, when she held an exhibition of her paintings that she, for the first time in India, received unprecedented acclaim.



Hill Men, 1935.

Impact of South India

But now followed her odyssey to South India, which took her to Ellora and Ajanta, and to the lush green palm-fringed Malabar Coast right down to Cape Comorin. When she saw Ajanta and Ellora, she was enthrilled. She wrote. "Ellora magnificent! Ajanta curiously subtle and fascinating". But she was most impressed with the murals in the Mattencheri Palace in Cochin. According to her, "I have seldom seen such powerful drawing. It often surpasses Ajanta".

On her way back from South India, she stayed in Delhi for a while and held an exhibition there. It was then that she met Jawaharlal Nehru for the first time. She wrote about this meeting in these words: "I met Jawaharlal Nehru in Delhi. I had been longing to meet him. I think he liked me as much as I liked him. He came to my exhibition and we had a long talk. He wrote to me some time back, 'I liked your pictures because they showed so much

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strength and perception. You have both these qualities. How different these pictures were from the pasty faced lifeless efforts that one sees so frequently in India!' "

Back in Simla, Amrita spent the next few months in, as she put it, "regurgitating" her South Indian impressions on canvas. This period of her painting, in the opinion of many art critics, was perhaps the most fruitful. Canvas after canvas she painted in what has since come to be known as her South Indian style. It culminated in her painting her South Indian Trilogy—"The Brahamcharis", "The Bride's Toilet" and "South Indian Villagers Going to the Market."

The completion of her South Indian Trilogy was the end of an era in the development and flowering of Amrita's genius. Coincidentally, it also synchronised with her au revoir to Simla and her advent in Lahore, then one of the outstanding centres of the arts and letters in India.

Debut in Lahore

Amrita made her debut in Lahore in November 1937. She had come there to hold a one-man show of her paintings. To those of us who were present on the opening day of the exhibition of the 21st of November, 1937, it will always remain an unforgettable occasion. The scene was the Ball Room of Faletti's Hotel. There were thirty canvases in all—most of them large. They comprised most of those painted in her South Indian style, inciuding the Trilogy. The effect they made on those present was electric. The late Dr Charles Fabri, a celebrated art critic who was present on the occasion and who had known Amrita since she was a child of six, described it as a 'revelation.'

Amrita left Lahore in early 1938 and spent the next few months in Simla with occasional trips to Saraya. And during this brief spell of a few months, she painted furiously — "Siesta", "The Story Teller", "Ganesh Puja", "Hill Side", "Hill Scene", "Elephants Bathing in a Green Pool" and many others. Here, for the first time, she began to employ the decorative motif, using trees, flowers and foliage. But even now, as in the past, colour continued to be her forte —colour which was rich, warm, vibrant and pulsating. As she herself put it "Colour is my domain and I am on terms of easy domination with it."

Hill Women, 1935.

Marriage to Victor Egan

She had, for many years, been engaged to be married to her cousin, Dr Victor Egan. It was decided that she would go to Hungary, get married, and then, they would both come to India. June 1938 found her on the high seas. Soon after her arrival in Budapest, she and Victor Egan were married.

The Egans decided to settle in Simla, but Dr Egan's practice did not flourish. Amrita was not able to sell many of her pictures. They moved to Saraya where Dr Egan was appointed Medical Officer of the Hospital attached to the sugar factory owned by Amrita's uncle Sir Sunder Singh Majithia.

During this period, she painted a large number of paintings including "Resting", "Elephant Promenade", "The Swings" "Horse aind Groom", "The Ancient Story Teller", "Women

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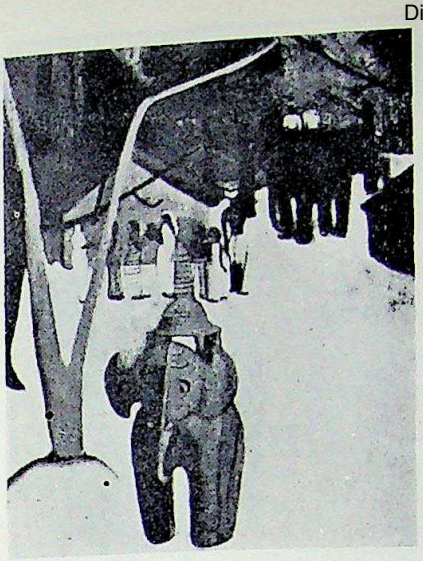

Red Clay Elephant, 1938

Resting on a Charpoy", "Haldi Grinders" and "Camels", which reflect her growing admiration for the Moghul and Rajasthani miniatures.

It was during a brief visit to Simla, where she had gone to escape the heat of the plains, that Amrita and her husband decided to shift to Lahore.

Life in Lahore

The Egans moved to Lahore in September 1941. Amrita threw herself with demonaic energy into the business of settling down. Dr Egan started his professional contacts. In no time at all, they became an essential part of the mainstream of the social, artistic and cultural life of Lahore. Amrita's home became a rendezvous for poets, writers, musicians and artists.

Amrita began feverish preparations for holding an exhibition—a one-man show of her paintings—sometime in early December. And, for the first time since her arrival in Lahore, she started to paint. The picture was to be a view from her terrace of buffaloes kept by the lovely rustic milkmen who lived in the mud dwellings at the rear of her house, which she could see from the roof of her double-storeyed apartment.

Suddenly fell the shadow. She was stricken with serious illness. The painting has remained unfinished.

Today Amrita Sher-Gill has become a legend in this country. Most know her for her great paintings. They have also heard that she was very beautiful and that she died very young. Some have been told that she was self-opinionated, arrogant and conceited, and that she could be very unpleasant. Personally, I shall always think of her as being beautiful and exceptionaly elegant and with a mind that glowed like a flaming star. She was a brilliant conversationalist,

AMRITA SHER-GILL CHRONOLOGY

		Some Important Paintings
January 30, 1913	*Born at Budapest (Hungary)*	
1913 to 1921	*In Hungary*	
1921 to 1929	*In Simla*	
1929 to 1934	*Student at the Beaux Arts, Paris*	
	Spent summer months in Hungary	
November 1934	*Returned to India*	
1935	*Painted in Simla and Saraya (Gorakhpur District, UP)*	"Hill Men" "Hill Women"
November 1936	*In Bombay: saw Basohli and Rajput and Mughal Miniatures*	
December 1936	*Visited Ajanta and Ellora*	
January 1937	*Travelled in South India*	
1937	*Painted in Simla and Saraya*	"Bride's Toilet" "Brahmacharis" "South Indian Villagers Going to Market"
June 1938 *to July* 1939	*In Hungary: Married Dr Victor Egan*	"Two Girls"
August 1939 to *September* 1941	*In Saraya*	"Ancient Story-Teller" "Woman Resting on Charpoy" "Swing" "Bride"
September 1941	*Went to settle in Lahore*	"Last Painting" (*Unfinished*)
December 6, 1941	*Died in Lahore*	

Amrita Sher-Gil showed promise of her talent at the age of 12. Here she sketches a head of a visitor.

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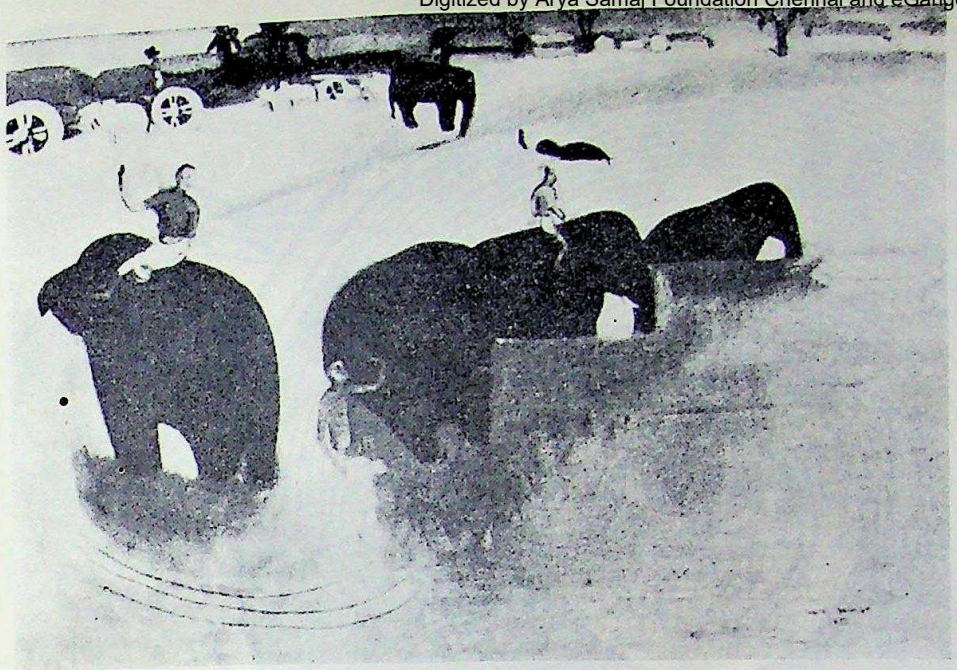

Elephants Bathing, 1938

a person who had delved deeply in the literature of many countries. She was passionately devoted to music, not only the classics but also jazz. Till the very end it was always in music that she found solace. Whenever she felt depressed or moody, she would go and sit at the piano and play for hours together. And she played very well indeed.

Liberator of Indian art

If Amrita's monumental achievement could be summed up in one word, it would be to say that she was the liberator. The world of Indian art was never the same again after her brief appearance on the Indian horizon. She liberated Indian art. She created no school, and yet, in one way or another, she seems to have influenced every single artist who has come after her.

On the 3rd of December 1941 Amrita Sher-Gill suddenly fell ill. And on the midnight of December 5 she was dead. She was not yet 28.

She was cremated on the banks of the river Ravi in Lahore in the presence of a handful of friends and admirers. As the grief-stricken father lit the funeral pyre and her body was consumed by the devouring flames, how well I remember saying to myself, and the convinction has grown through the years...we shall never see the like of her again.

In the dining room at Falettis Hotel I looked forward at meals to seeing a slight pale faced girl who sat alone. She had features uncommon to these parts and yet unfamiliar. They were finely chiselled and surrounded by smooth black hair, parted in the middle and pulled severely over the ears. But quite unforgettable were her dark eyes of unnatural lustre, hauntingly enlarged by the deep pallor of her skin which contrasted with her brightly painted lips. She sat and stared as if into eternity, uniterested in anything around her, looking deeply into what others could not see or suspect. Occassionally she lifted the fork and held it poised in air but put it down again, and then one saw her exquisitely modelled hands, small with the grace of a waterbird in flight, but tired and transparent.

One evening I took a wrong turn in the corridor and saw a board an nouncing an exhbiition by a painter whose name meant nothing to me. I walked in to have a look. In the centre of the room, surounded by paintings on the walls, sat the girl from the dining room with her usual far-away expression. Apparently few came to see the paintings. In my confussion I apologized and said I was merely going to look around for a few moments.

Like her face I remember her pictures. Their colours were bold and joyous, quite different from the popular schools of paintings then reviving Indian art. Here was a vividness that belied her frailty.

She was Amrita Shergill, our first outstanding modern painter. She painted for only a few years, but in the short space she left behind some immortal pictures of the Punjab, to which she added something of the Hungarian heritage of her mother. She showed the way to a new birth of Indian art.

Parkash Tandon in "Beyond Punjab."

Shortly before her death.

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The night of the full moon

. . . another moment and she was in his arms. Their lips met; their teeth ground against each other. Passion that had been held in check for over 20 years burst its banks and carried them on the flood.

SHORT STORY

No one believed that Malan and Minnie were mother and daughter: they looked like sisters. Minnie was quite a bit taller than her mother. People said, "Malan, your daughter has grown into a lovely woman." They never stopped gaping at the girl. She was like a pearl—and as charming as she was comely.

When Malan looked at her daughter she felt as if she was looking at herself. She too had been as young and as beautiful. She hadn't aged much either. And there was somebody who was willing to go to the ends of the earth for her even now.

Why had her mind wandered to this man? The dealer in pearls! Every time she thought of him, pearls dropped from her eyes. Her daughter was now a woman: it was unbecoming for her to think of a man. She had restrained herself all these years; why did her mind begin to waver? She must hold herself in check. Her daughter was due to wed in another week; she must not entertain such evil thoughts—never, never.

"My very own, my dearest," he had written only yesterday, "do not forget me." But every time he came to the village she sent him away without any encouragement. She shut her eyes as fast as she shut her door against him. But he had refused to give her up. She was his life; without her he found no peace. He had spent many years waiting for her, pleading with her, suffering the pangs of love and passion. An age had passed and now the afternoon shadows had lengthened across life's courtyard.

Malan knew in her heart that he would come that night. Every full-moonlit night he knocked on her door. And tonight the moon would be full. The night would be cold, frosty and still. She had never unlatched her door for him. Would she tonight? She recalled a cold, moonlit night of many years ago. She was dancing in the mango grove when her dupatta had got caught in his hand. She had come to him bare-headed with the moonlight flecking her face with jasmine petals. He had put the dupatta across her shoulders—exactly the way it lay across her shoulders now. A shiver ran down Malan's spine.

Minnie came down the lane, tall and as slender as a cypress. Fair and fragile, she looked as if the touch of a human hand would leave a stain on her. Modestly, she had her dupatta wrapped round her face, and her eyes lowered.

Minnie was returning from the temple. She had prayed to the gods to grant her wish. She had prayed to the gods to grant everybody all his or her wishes.

Malan smiled. Something stirred her fancy. If her wish could be granted, she thought to herself, what would she ask for?

"Father has not returned," complained Minnie.

A short story

by

Kartar Singh Duggal

"He is not expected back today: it will be a thousand blessings if he gets back by tomorrow. He has a lot of things to buy. At weddings and feasts it's better to have a little more than to run short," explained Malan.

Minnie took off her sequinned dupatta and spread it on her mother's shoulders. She took her mother's plain dupatta instead and went into the kitchen.

The light of the full moon came through the branches and sprinkled on Malan's face. The full moon always did something to her. It made her feel like one drunk. In another four days women would come to her courtyard to sing wedding songs. They would put henna on the palms and soles of her daughter's feet. They would help her with her bridal clothes; load her with ornaments. How would her daughter look in bright red silk? And then the groom would come on horseback and take her to his own home. He would kiss the henna away from the girl's palms and the soles of her feet.

It wasn't so very long ago that all this had happened to her, Malan. But Minnie's father had not once kissed the soles of her feet, nor ever pressed her palms against his eyes. He always came home tired; he ate his meal and fell fast asleep. Only the desire to have a son would occasionally arouse him at midnight. And then it was over so quickly that Malan had to spend hours counting the stars to cool down and get back to sleep. These midnight efforts had produced a daughter every year. The girls came to the world uninvited and departed without leave. Only one, Minnie, remained. She was the replica of her mother: like the fruit of a tree that bears only one. Minnie had large gazelle eyes—the eyes of Malan. She had long black hair—the hair of Malan. And she had a full-bosomed wantonness which often made Malan think that all her frustrated passions had been rekindled in her daughter's body.

Minnie scrubbed the kitchen utensils, bolted the door of the courtyard and went to bed in her own room. Malan was left alone.

It was late. The moon was so dazzlingly bright that it seemed to be focussing all its light in that one courtyard. Was it cold? Not really. Just pleasantly cool. Malan asked herself why she sat alone in the courtyard under the light of the full moon. Was she expecting someone? Minnie had gone to bed and her father had gone away to the city. Why was he away on a night like this? On full moon nights she used to keep herself indoors away from temptation. But tonight she had her daughter's sequinned dupatta wrapped about her face. The sequins glistened in the silvery moonlight; it seemed as if the stars were entangled in her hair; they twinkled on her eyelashes, on her face and on her shoulders. A night-jar called from the mango grove: uk, uk, uk. It would call like that all through the night—uk, uk, uk.

Her thoughts carried her with them. Her daughter would be married in a week's time. Then she would be left alone—all alone in the huge courtyard. A shiver ran through her body. The empty courtyard would terrify her. She would have to learn to live by herself. Her husband was too occupied with the pursuit of money; his money-lending and debt-collecting. He came back late in the evening only to collapse on his charpoy. She had

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often asked him why he involved himself in so many affairs, but it had not made any difference.

Malan went indoors and saw her daughter fast asleep—as dead to the world as only the young can be. Her red bangles lay beside her pillow. Silly girl. She had only to turn in her sleep and they would be crushed. Malan picked them up to put them on the mantelpiece. Before she knew it, she had slipped them on her own arms; six on one, six on the other. They glistened even in the dark. They were new; her daughter had only bought them the day before from the bangle-seller.

Malan came out in the moonlit courtyard—the requinned dupatta on her head and her arms a-jingle-jangle with bright red glass bangles. She felt like a bride—warm, lusty. Blood surged in her veins.

There was a gentle knock on the door. It was he. It was the same knock—a nervous, hesitant knock. He was there as he had written in his letter he would be: "On the full-moonlit night of December I will knock at your door. If you are not willing, let it be. I will continue to knock at your door as I have always done."

Knock, knock, knock—very soft, very sweet, a very inviting knock. Who could it be but he: the prowler in the moonlit nights? Suddenly the moon went behind a cloud and it was absolutely dark.

In a moment, Malan's feet took her across the dark courtyard. With trembling hands she undid the latch. Another moment and she was in his arms. Their lips met: their teeth ground against each other. Passion that had been held in check for over twenty years burst its banks and carried them on the flood.

Malan did not know how they went to the bo tree outside the village. She did not remember how they went into the field beside the bo tree—nor how long they stayed there. She was woken by the train which passed by the village in the early hours of the dawn. She extricated herself from her lover's embrace, covered her face with her dupatta and hurried back to her home.

She slipped off the bangles from her arms and put them back beside her daughter's pillow. She folded her daughter's sequinned dupatta, took her own back and went to her charpoy. She fell asleep at once and slept as she had never slept before—almost as if she were making up for a lifetime of sleeplessness.

When she woke, the sun was streaming into the courtyard.

"How you slept, like a little babe," teased Minnie.

Minnie had swept the rooms and the courtyard and cooked the morning meal. She had bathed and was ready to go to the temple. She had tied jasmine flowers in her dupatta to offer to the gods.

As soon as Minnie left, Malan stretched herself lazily on a charpoy in the courtyard. She was filled with sleep and her head was filled with dreams.

A soft breeze began to blow. Warm sunshine spread in the courtyard. Malan felt like a bowl of milk, full to the brim—with a few petals of jasmine floating on it. It was a strange heady intoxication. Her eyes would close, open, and then close again.

"O Malan. Where's that slut?" cried a voice suddenly. Malan felt as if someone had slapped her face. "Never heard of such goings-on and only four days to her wedding!"

"What has my daughter done?" shrieked Malan rising up in anger. "She is as innocent as a calf."

There was a derisive exclamation. The neighbour woman sneered. "Your little calf has been on the dung heap all night!"

Malan's body went cold, her life-blood draining from her veins, a deathly pallor spread over her face.

Lajo, her neighbour, was speaking. "It was barely dark when the bitch walked off with a stranger. I had got up to relieve myself when I saw them go away into the fields, with their arms entwined around each other's waists. I didn't get a wink of sleep. We have to watch the interests of our daughters. I've never heard of anyone blacken the faces of her parents in this way."

Malan sat still as if turned to stone. She did not seem to hear what was being said.

The village watchman took up Lajo's story.

"Sister-in-law, Malan," he said trying to attract her attention.

"What is it, Jumma?" Her voice seemed to come out of the depths of a deep well.

"Bhabi, this is not the sort of thing one can talk about easily. An awful thing happened in the village last night. My hair has gone grey with the years I've been watchman of the village, but never have I known such a scandal. Your daughter blackened her face with someone under the bo tree. Twice I passed within ten paces of them. There they were locked together, limb joined to limb; oblivious of all but each other. I kept guard over your house. I said to myself, 'The wedding is to take place in another four days; the house must be full of new dresses and ornaments and the door wide open.' I left at dawn. I don't know what time your daughter came back after [illegible] Gurukul Kangri College, Haridwar would break every bone in her body."

Malan gazed at the watchman, stunned.

Jumma was followed by Ratna, the zamindar. He was in a rage.

"Where is that slut?" he roared. "Couldn't she find another field for whoring?" Ratna leapt about as he spoke. The neighbours came out of their homes to watch and listen. Ratna continued, "I was on my way to the well when I saw her come out of the field with her face wrapped in the sequinned dupatta. I thought that the girl had come out to ease herself, but then her lover emerged from the other end of the same field. I saw them with my own eyes."

At that moment, Minnie tore her way through the crowd. She had heard all that had been said about her. "You are lying, Uncle!" she shrieked.

"You dare call me a liar, you little trollop? You ill-starred wretch. And how did a broken red bangle happen to be in my field?" He untied the knot in his shawl, took out a piece of red bangle and slapped it on Minnie's palm. Minnie ran her eyes over her arms and counted the bangles; there were only eleven. The world swam before her eyes and then darkened.

The women exchanged glances. They had seen Minnie buy the bangles. Yes, there were ten and then two more. And she had specially asked for red ones.

The courtyard was full of babbling men and women. Minnie's fiance's father edged his way through; his wife was behind him. They flung all the presents they had received in front of Malan: clothes, money and rings. The crowd gaped. Women touched their ears; young girls bit their fingernails. A broken engagement was a broken life. What would Minnie do, now that she would never find a husband? It served her right, shameless harlot!

Over the sound of their angry droning, there was a loud splash. For a moment the crowd was petrified. Then someone shouted, "The well!" And understanding dawned.

Minnie was nowhere to be seen. The gentle Minnie who never raised her voice against anyone, who was as pure as the jasmines she wove into garlands, Minnie, who never tired of praying to her gods for the happiness of everyone she knew.

Suddenly people ran to the well. Only Malan sat where she was, numb with horror, unable to move. Her courtyard was empty—emptier than it ever had been, as empty as it always would now be.

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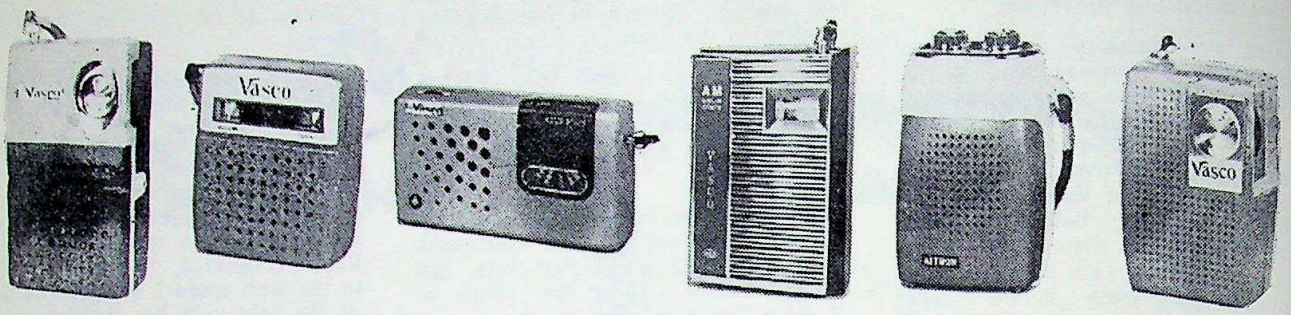

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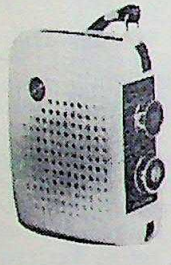

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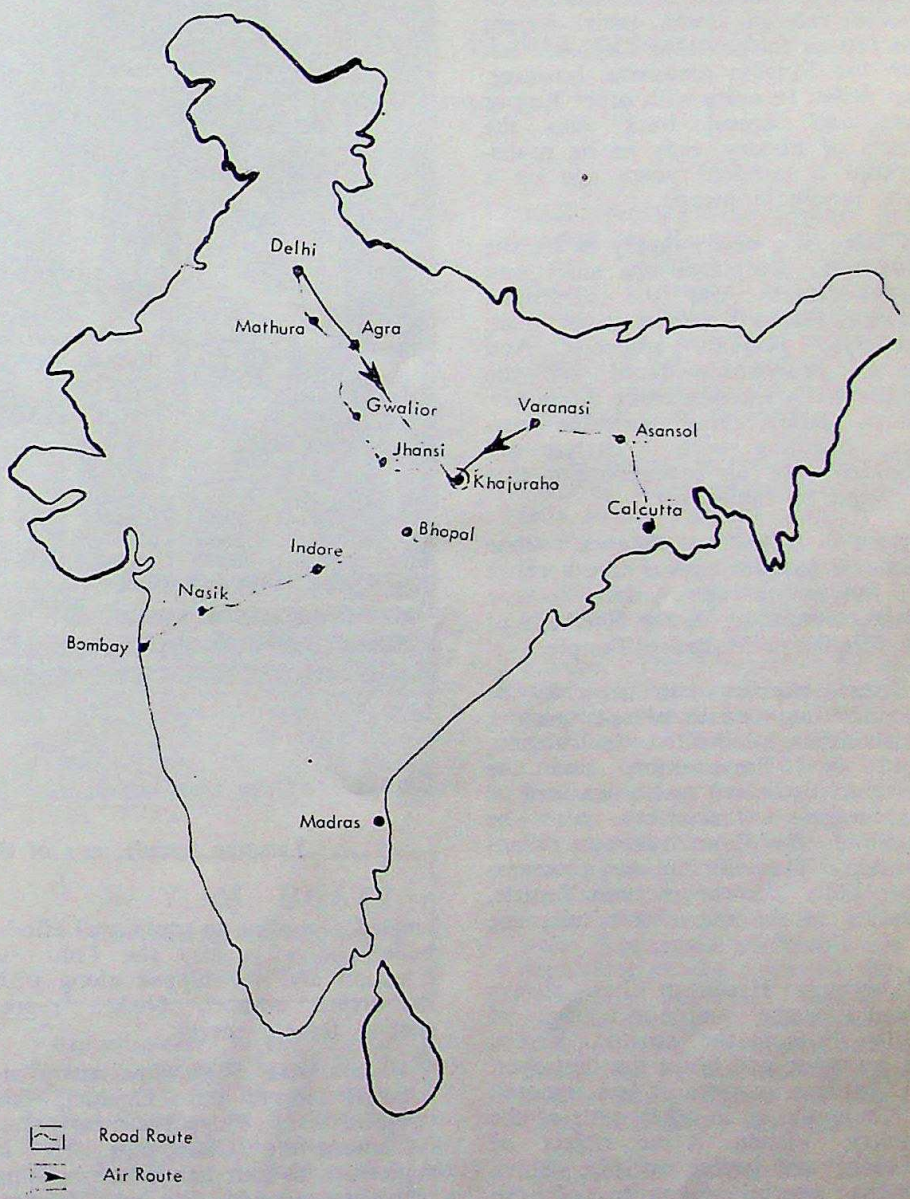
Khajuraho

THE INDIAN was recently invited to join a Government-sponsored press party to Khajuraho. The following article is based on personal observation plus briefing by the Tourism Department, Government of India.

Khajuraho! To the sightseer, be he an Indian or a foreign tourist, the word has a ring of eroticism and conjures up visions of sculptural splendour. Particularly for the globe-girdling tourists, their Indian jaunt is incomplete without a visit to Khajuraho, and every year thousands of them make a beeline for this Mecca of India's tourism.

The temples of Khajuraho, located in central India 594 kilometres from Delhi, are among the most magnificent specimens of historical Indian sclpture.

More than a thousand years ago, a sturdy, powerful people of the Rajpur clan—the Chandellas—lived and fought here, triumphed and subjugated. And, having reached the peak of power and position, built temples to their gods with all the religious fervour of a virile race.



by

Arvind Bhandari

Today only 22 extraordinay temples remain to ore-create the major secular occupations of the Chandellas, their minor absorptions. Where war-chariots rolled in battles, men commerced, women improved and perfected I'art de toilette, now there is only the silence of low hills and shallow lakes—the serenity of timelessness.

There are many enigmas which may never be answered. Why were the temples built? And why so many? What motivated the great warlords to create such beauty to the glory of their gods?

Many conflicting theories have been put forth, for little remains but the temples. The visitor had best set them all aside and let the stones speak to him.

Carved fervently by Indian devotees are eloquent figures of griffins, nymphs, animals; demons in revolt; gods in cosmic evolutions; mortals expressing the entire gamut of human emotions—from fears, doubts, jealousies to ardent love and consummate passion. Together, they represent the finest and the most developed in the art of the medieval Indian period.

Many legends have grown round the origin of he Chandella race. The most popular one, discredited by historians but nevertheless interesting, claims the founder of the race to be none other than Chandrama, god of the moon, whence the name "chand".

The story goes that one day Amravathi, daughter of the priest of Banaras, went to bathe in the moon lit waters of the Rati lake. Since she was irresistibly beautiful, Chandrama descended from the heavens and embraced her in the manner of lesser mortals. As he was leaving, Amravathi, overcome with shame and remorse, cried: "How shall my dis-

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honour be effaced when I am without a husband?" Chandrama told her not to fret since she would give birth to the founder of a valorous race. The son was born, and one of his descendants, the legend goes, performed a sacirfice at Khajurpur and built 85 temples.

Now only 22 temples remain to re-create by-gone glories of the Chandellas, their intense devotion and spiritual passion. They were mostly built at the height of Chandella power between 950 to 1050 A.D. One of the most important dynasties of North India between the Prathiharas and the establishment of Muslim rule in India, their weight was felt as far south as Ceylon. Before the Musilm invasions, however, they failed to unite with other Rajpur clans, and stepped back into the panels of history, only to be re-discovered a hundred years ago on a stark lonely landscape.

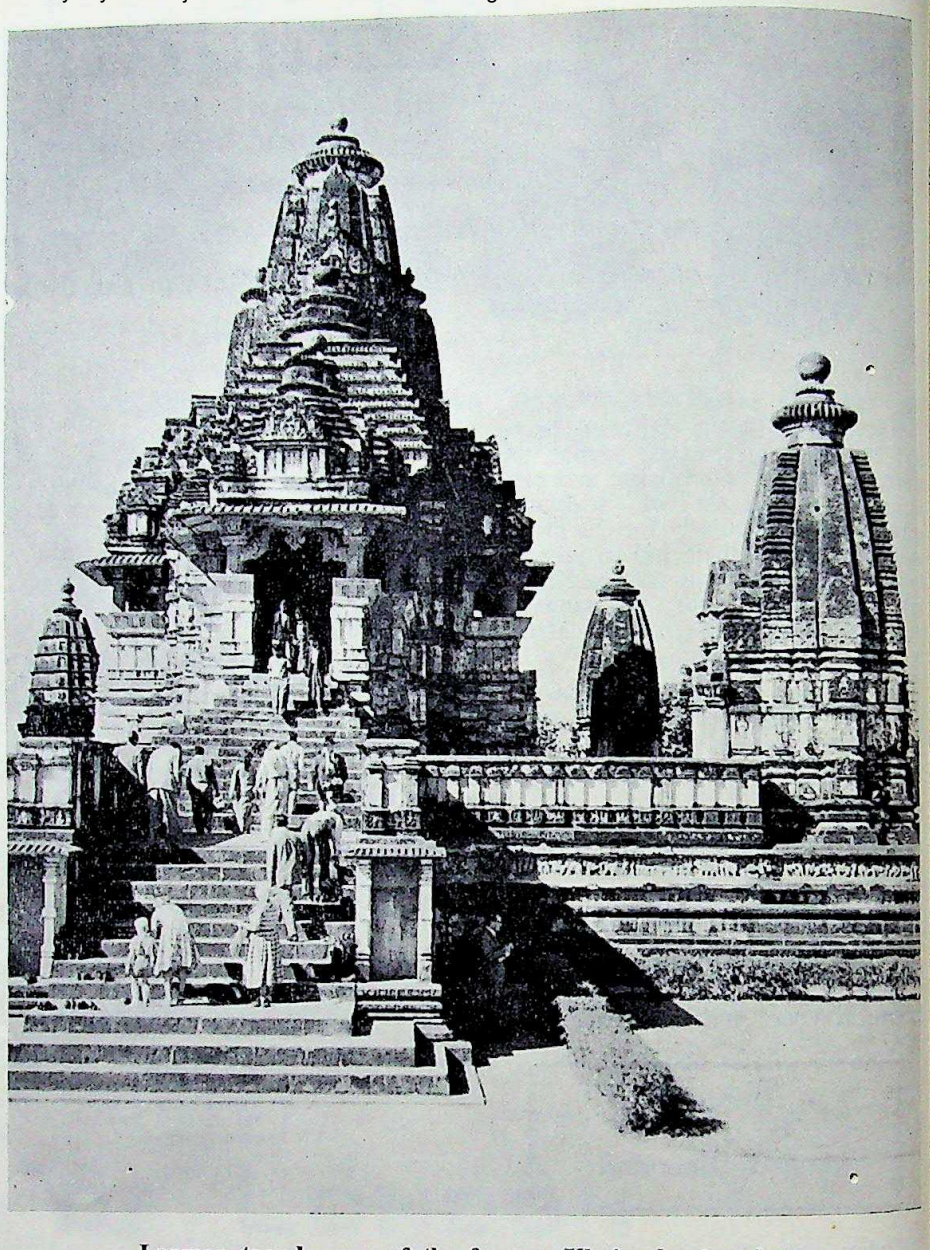
Centre of a new imagery in art, the Khajuraho sculptures are sometimes matter-of-fact. And the celebrated theme is Woman; woman at her toilet, reflective, playful, amorous. And she is everywhere—laced on the temple walls, moving along the lintels, pillars, ceiling, every carvable surface, blending with a rhythm and moulded with an expressionism that is unique to Indian art.

Seen from a distance, these medieval temples appear like a range of hills rising spire upon ornate spire, culminating in the Shikhara of the Kandariya Mahadeo Temple.

These temples can generally be divided into two dominant groups, Vaishnavists, dedicated to Vishnu, Lord of Preservation, and the Shaivists, dedicated to Shiva, Lord of Destruction. Traces can also be found of Buddhism, Jainism, Sun-worship, Tree-worship and various other cults like the esoteric Tantric, pointing to the remarkable tolerance of the Chandella kings.

Although Hinduism has always vested supreme power in a triad of deities, Brahma the creator, Vishnu the preserver and Shiva the destroyer, yet Brahma is more or less ignored in Khajuraho as in other parts of the country. Vishnu is the object of sensuous and joyful worship. Shiva is the special favourite of the Chandellas and is offered veneration, sometimes solemn, sometimes riotus.

Shiva manifests himself before these medieval people in many forms and moods. As death and destruction, wearing skull necklaces and haunting cemeteries, or as the austere ascetic loaded with matted hair, his body smeared wih ashes. Sometimes he is portrayed deep in thought, his wary third eye in the centre of the forehead signifying omniscience. Since what is destroyed must also be re-



Laxman temple, one of the famous Khajuraho temples.

created according to traditional Hindu belief, Shiva is also the Lord of Creation and worshipped along with the divine consort, Shakti, representing female energy.

Vishnu, like Shiva, has many attributes, Rama and Krishna, his youthful forms, being the most popular among the Chandellas. He is depicted with four hands (symbolising omnipotence), with his wife Laxmi (Goddess of Wealth) resting beside him on a lotus or reclining on a serpent. Many are the shattering rivalries between the deities, many the conflicts between them and demons. All along in he panels we see them in their awesome reality or as benign manifesations in the dramatic cosmic process.

They are divided into 3 main geographical groups: Southern Eastern and Western. The Western group comprises the famous Kandariya Mahadeo Temple with its spectacular galleries, the Chausat Yogini, dedicated to the 64 attendants of the Goddess of Death, the Chitragupta Temple enshrining the image of the Sun god and many others.

The Eastern group comprises three Hindu and three Jain shrines with a colossal statue of Hanuman dominating a temple of a more recent origin. The Southern group lies about 5 kms from Khajuraho and comprises the famous Duladeo and the Chaturbhuj shrines, containing a striking lion-head figure of Shakri who may be the female counterpart of Narasimha, another incarnation of Vishnu.

In these temples, figures are more expressionistic than naturalistic. The character of various gods has been represented by a system of symbolic poses, several arms being an expression of omniscience, leaping signifying power, a relaxed posture,

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Pepper

Spice of Life in Asia

Can a little thing like Spices add flavour to the process of Asian economic co-operation?

In ancient times Spices attracted European merchants to undertake perilous voyages to the East. The Romans, the Venetians, the Greeks, the Spanish, the Dutch, the French and the British traded in Silk and Spices since centuries. Their search for Spices led to their conquest of several spice-growing countries—India, Ceylon, Sarawak, Cambodia and above all Dutch East Indies now called Indonesia. These powers also fought among themselves to attain hegemony over the sea routes and the spice-growing countries.

Among the Spices, Pepper (Piper Nigrum) is consumed throughout the World in culinary preparations and, since the advent of food-canning, as a preservative. In the Fifteenth Century, Venetian merchants alone were supplying Western Europe about 1.5 million pounds of pepper annually. However the Pepper-trade by land routes through the Middle East has now almost ceased to the disadvantage of Asian traders.

Pepper is important to the Asian producing countries—India, Indonesia, Malaysia (Sarawak), Ceylon, Cambodia and Thailand contributes materially to their national income, foreign exchange earnings and employment. While in India pepper is produced almost in the back-yards of village gardens, it is a sort of mixed plantation crop in other countries. Almost 300000 acres in India, 100000 acres in Indonesia, 18000 acres in Sarawak and 15000 acres in Ceylon are devoted to pepper growing. More recently Brazil has emerged as a strong competitor to the Asian countries with its 135000 acres of pepper cultivation. Madagascar also to some extent. World exports of Pepper is about 131000 metric tons, Asian countries supplying about 75 per cent of that total.

However trade — domestic and more particularly exports— in Pepper is primarily handled by the middlemen (Chinese, Indian, and also by a few Europeans in Singapore), and by the European importers for the Canning industry at American and European centres.

The prices are manipulated by these interests, to such an extent that neither the increase in production nor the increase in demand benefit the growers, who are small farmers or work on plantations. Price fluctuations—as a result of manipulation of stocks—are as wide as 50 per cent in a single or two years. For instance, Spot (New York) price for Black Pepper fluctuated from 45 cents per pound in 1963, to 32 Cents in 1968, over 62 cents in 1969 and 71 cents in 1971. Since in Asia, pepper is grown largely by small holders on mixed holdings, the farmer ceases to take proper care of the Vines when prices decline.

by **V. M. BHATT**
Our Special Correspondent in Thailand

Consumption in the major producing countries is small, the bulk of pepper crop being exported. The United States is the biggest single importer, followed by Western Europe, the U.S.S.R., China and Latin America. The rate of growth in imports by the U.S.S.R., Eastern Europe and China has been quite significant in recent years. Are Socialist countries becoming more 'Peppery'? Nor should we forget the strange phonomena that while Indian, Burmese, Ceylonese or Pakistani use spices—particularly Pepper in Curries, Sambhar and pickles, some of the cold countries like Korea or North China use this hot stuff also in their cooking. However the use of pepper in Industrial production—especially canned foods and salted meat provide the main overseas market for Pepper. This makes the future outlook for pepper less gloomy, if means and policies are found to enable the small cultivators to reap the benefit of increased demand and prices, and of the Asian Pepper producing countries can co-operate among themselves.

The Pepper market is quite spicy—suffering from price fluctuations not only from year to year but also during a single season. Singapore is the hub of Spice-market and is controlled by a limited number of exporters from the growing countries and importers in America and Europe. The traders' techniques of stock-holdings are indeed quite ingenious—and sometimes dramatically speculative. The alleys of Singapore, Cochin, and Bombay where Pepper is traded are dark and shady and smack almost of 'cloak and dagger" tricks, and smell of under-the table-deals' among 'Chens', 'Mariwalas' and their associates. Attempts have been made to even artificially colour the white Pepper into black and vice versa depending on the prices of these two varieties of pepper. There is a large disparity between the import price in consuming countries and retail prices paid by the ultimate consumer —difference between the two is at times as large as ten times.

Inspite of the fact that 75 per cent of Pepper production and exports are accounted for by India, Indonesia, Sarawak, Ceylon, Cambodia and Thailand, there is hardly any effective co-operation among those countries to strive for a better deal for their economies. There is no 'Spice Exchange' in any of these countries, but the spice market, particularly in Singapore which is the entrepot, is as lively as 'Share Bazar' or 'Cotton Exchange' in Bombay. Fortunes fluctuate while "the Curry," "the Sambhar", "the Chutney" and "Kimohi" continue to delight the

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palates of the Asians, and the Canners of food and meat await with eager eyes the fall in market the stook-pile the requirements. Nobody knows who really corners the stock, when and how much?

Not that attempts have not been made by Asian Governments to compile data on Pepper production, prices, stocks and demand, but no success has so far been attained to regulate the trade in the interest of the growers. The eternal problems of primary commodities, fluctuations in their prices, instability of markets and out—threat competitions among the growing countries—are as intractable for Pepper, as for other crops, like Rubber, Copra, Tea, Jute, Cotton etc. Recently the three major Pepper producing Asian countries India, Indonesia, Malaysia got together and established a 'Pepper Community' somewhat on the lines of 'European Steel and Coal Communities' with a view to initiating a closer co-operation among themselves in respect of research, production and marketting, after being somewhat disappointed with the working of the so-called "FAO Study-Group on Spices". Although Ceylon, Thailand and Cambodia have not yet joined the 'Pepper Community', a new spirit of Regional Co-operation in Asia on a 'Commodity-by-Commodity' basis is now begining to emerge. This venture is significant, although Pepper is by no means that big a sector among many primary commodities in which Asia has a big stake. However, because it is a small sector, it seems reasonable to expect some concrete achievements in a better deal for our Pepper growers. It would certainly add to the zest in the search for variety of ways in which Asian countries can create a spirit of Regional co-operation, and at the same time bring better benefits to the millions in Asia, who are engaged in the cultivation, processing, trade and export of primary commodities. If regional co-operation was initiated in Western Europe, through a huge complex of "European Coal and Steel Communities," aided by the Marshall Plan—which ultimately flowered into the "European Common Market, and in Eastern Europe through COMECON," let us hope that this little Spicy venture in Asian regional co-operation will succeed and lead to larger regional co-operation broadening from precedent to precedent. The zest for spice requires to be guided into bigger ventures befitting the spirit of emerging New Asia.

* * *

INDIAN FILM REVIEW

Portrait of Indian Cinema

Starting from scratch, the Indian Cinema has now made tremendous strides under the impact of various social, cultural and economic forces within a span of six decades.

India proudces on an average a feature film a day and a short film every alternate day, acquiring a status of one of the largest film producing countries in the world next to Japan and U.S.A.

During 1971, a record number of 428 feature films were produced, bringing the total number of fiims produced to about 11,000. Of these, about 4500 have been made in Hindi and the remaining in Bengali, Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam, Kannada, Marathi, Gujrati and other languages.

A big venture

The Indian cinema by all standards has become a big commercial enterprise and a big industry with a capital investment of about Rs. 110 crores. It employs more than 100000 men and women of various talents, entertaining about 30 million film viewers per week.

We have more than 7000 cinema houses scattered over the length and the breadth of this vast country. The total number of seats in cinema houses at the end of 1970 was 42,76,050.

The cinema has become the most powerful communicator and entertainer of our age, commanding the largest audience, the widest influence and covering the entire range of human life and activity.

Founding fathers

The first motion picture screened in India, was at Watson Hotel in Bombay on July 7, 1896 through a 'cinematographe' of the Lumiere Brothers. The first short film 'Wrestler' made in India was by H.S. Bhatwadekar in 1899. F.B. Thanawala made his own film in 1900. He and Sawe Dada and Hiralal Sen were the earliest Indians to make pioneering efforts in this field. The first Indian silent film 'Pundlik' based on a story made by R.G. Torne and M.G. Chitre was shown in Bombay on May, 18, 1912.

However, to a student of Indian cinema, May 3, 1913 should count as a landmark in its development. It was on this day that the first fully Indian made feature film made by Dada Saheb Phalke was screened in Bombay, titled "Harischandra". The father of the Indian cinema had all made artists in his film, Phalke was a versatile genius. He wrote his own scripts, worked as an editor, set-designer, cameraman, director, drawing his themes from mythology religion and folk lore.

In 1917, J.F. Madan made a film on the same subject in Bengal. He popularised the cinema through a net-work of theatres. The first feature film in the South was "Keechaka Vadhan" made by N. Mudliar in 1919, in Madras.

From 1912 to 1934 a total of 1279 silent feature films were made. The themes were based on mythology, history, biography, fantasy, stunt and even social subjects.

It was in 1927 that the Film Enquiry Commitee was appointed to assess the industry. It was realised that the medium exercised enormous influence on men and morals. A decade earlier the Indian Cinematography Act was passed for licensing of cinemas and certification of films for public exhibition.

Talkie revolution

'Alam Ara' was the first Indian talkie produced by Ardeshir Irani in Bombay in 1931. It was an epoch-making event introducing music, dance and dialogue in our films. It meant drastic changes not only in the content and form of films but also in the entire setup of the industry and its sectors. Film music has been very popular with Indian people. The language in films and our own music has, however, cut us off from the line of true world cinema. However, creators like P.C. Barua, Debaki Bose, Nitin Bose, V. Shantaram, Vinayak, Himanshu Rai, Mahboob, J.B.H. Wadia made some good Indian films. Satyajit Ray put Indian cinema on the world map.

Technological progress

India has made marked progress in the art and science of production of films such as adoption of new techniques, use of modern equipment in photography, and new editing processes. The various photographic devices — like montage, flashback, closeup, dissolve, and jump-out are deployed in shooting of our films.

Fascinating firsts

The first colour film "Kanya Kumari" was made in 1937 and by now over 300 colour films, the

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majority in Hindi have been produced. In 1933 'Karma' with Devika Rani as heroine was made in English and Hindi. Guru Dutt made the first cinemascope in 1958 — "Kaagaz Ka Phool". The first film in colour and in cinemascope was "Pyar Ki Pyas" in 1961. The first big-budget film was "Mughal-e-Azam" by K. Asif. A Bengali film "Ingeet" made in 1961 was without the use of a spoken word. Sunil Dutt made an experimental film "Yaadein" in 1964 with one actor. "Round the World" made in 1967 was the first Indian technicolor film in 70 mm and with stereophonic sound. 'Panposh' was the first film in Geva colour and "Jhanak Jhanak Payal Baje" was the first technicolor film made by an Indian.

Some classics

We are proud of the various veterans who have produced film classics — Baburao Painter, Bimal Roy, Guru Dutt, K. Asif, B.N. Sircar and many others whose productions speak volumes of our achievements in the cinematic art.

The Prabhat Talkies, the Bombay Talkies, New Theatres, the A.V.M., the Gemini and other are among the few names that were responsible for producing a number of purposeful films.

Bombay Talkies' 'Kismat' released in 1943, broke an all-time record for its continuous run for 3½ years at Calcutta. This was because of the treatment, story, melodious music and competent stars that made it an exciting film.

Satyajit Ray

Satyajit Ray is counted as one of the most talented film-makers in the world. His APU triology is undoubtedly a master-piece of cinematic art. Barring Walt Disney, it is difficult to think of any person in the contemporary film world who has been honoured by film critics and connoisseurs on such a grand scale as this celebrated film director. His first feature film "Pather Panchali" won international applause. His style is refreshing and through this medium he realistically protrays ideas, unfolds the story, plans a situation and reveals life's little agonies and small comforts. His mastery lies in blending realism with other qualities like lyricism backed by his own style which has now come to be known as Ray's cinema.

Quantity vs quality

Despite the quantitative production, the veterans in the field often express their sorrow over the general lack of quality of our films. Many film makers these days copy the worst in foreign films, feeling that such scenes and sequences will provide good entertainment and this method will save them in labour of thinking and creating something new. Hardly any attention is paid to a good story, good music and other elements that go to make a good film. This medium has degenerated into a speculated commerce with all its ills like black-money, straglehold over the network of cinemas by vested interests star system and rich harvest by a few at the cost of the vast number of workers. The films are made with an eye on box-office sometimes even at the cost of artistic quality. Attempts are made to deploy elements of crime, sex and obscenity irrespective of the consideration of social good.

Documentaries

The Films Division, one of the biggest organisation of its kind was set up two decades ago. It makes the bulk of documentaries to disseminate ideas and information for mass enlightenment. Some of the documentaries are assigned to independent film producers to help documentary film production in the private sector. Many of the documentaries and experimental films have won world-wide acclaim. The Division makes out a weekly newsreal to give the people an audio-visual account of important events in the country and abroad. The films are made in English and regional languages. Besides documentaries and newsreels, it makes cartoons, classroom films, educational instructional films, tourist films and films for the record. It makes about 150 films a year and these are dubbed in various regional languages.

Links with film industry

The Film Enquiry Committee 1951 had recommended among other things (1) the setting up of a training Institute for film makers (2) a body to finance films of artistic value and (3) Film Council. The FTII, the biggest of its kind in Asia, was set up to impart training to budding film makers from India and also from neighbouring counries. The Institute had provided heroines and heroes, talents and trained directors and script writers, film editors and sound recordists and other technicals to the film industry. It is now being equipped to handle the new emerging medium of television.

New wave films

Some new film makers have come forward to make low-budget, off beat artistic and experimental films which are in tune with the contemporary trends of social conduct and practices and responsive to emotional needs of the people. The Film Finance Corporation has made a bold attempt to promote cinema in a meaningful way. It strives to change the taste of our cinema audience and provides finance to talented and worthy filmmakers. Films like "Bhuvan Shome," "Sara Akash", "Dastak" and "Badnam Basti" recognised for their merit and quality, have been financed by F.C.I.

The National Film Archives at Poona had been set up to procure and preserve film classics in India and abroad. It classifies films, conducts research and documentation and encourages film study and spread of film culture.

Similarly the Children's Film Society of India is responsible for making films of interest to children and helping the children film movement in the country.

Film festivals

India has entered into cultural exchange agreements with a number of countries and has been organising, participation of our films in various international film festivals.

The Indian Motion Picture Export Corporation serves the industry by opening new avenues of exports for our films.

Censorship

The Government had appointed a committee to go into the question of censorship of films and to study the effects of films exhibited in public on the people in the context of changing needs of society.

The Khosla Committee has submitted its report to Government. The Committee has studied in detail the working of existing laws, machinery and procedure for certification of Indian and foreign films for exhibition.

National awards

The Government has also instituted National Awards for films to encourage film-makers to make films a aesthetic and cultural value. There are seperate awards for feature films, documentary films and experimental and educational films.

Efforts are afoot to give a new dimension to the use of this mass communication with special emphasis on the motion picture as a means of education and purposeful entertainment. The Film is a potential medium and instrument of mass education. As any other media, it has to grapple with social problems and new challenges confronting the nation today.

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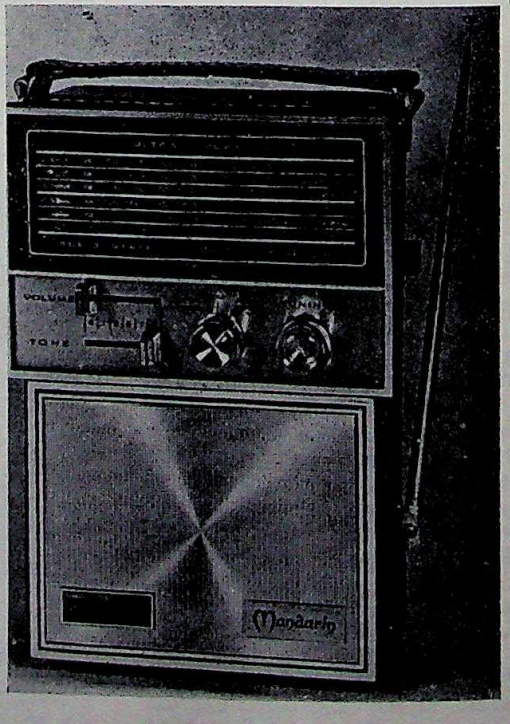

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INDIANS ABROAD

TURKEY

'Children" Day' was celebrated in Ankara under the auspices of Indo-Turkish Cultural Association and the Indian Embassy. Introducing Prof. (Dr.) Abidin Itil, President of the Association, to the guests, Mr Gajendra Singh, Charge d'Affaires, menitoned how it has coincided with the birthday of the late Prime Minister, Mr Jawaharlal Nehru, who was a great lover of children, like Kemal Ataturk. The guests included members of the Association and Indian residents in Ankara.

Nehru and Ataturk

Prof. Itil mentioned his first meeting with the late Mr Jawaharlal Nehru in Ankara in 1960, when he visited Turkey. Speaking about various faces of Nehru's life, Prof Itil quoted Sanskrit verses from Professor Bhaskaran Varnekar's "Jawahar Tarangini"—a publication that he translated into Turkish for the University of Ankara in 1948—to underline Panditji's "Childlike simplicity". Playing a recording of late Prime Minister Nehru's tribute to Kemal Ataturk (broadcast by All India Radio on October 3, 1963), Prof. Itil said: "It is significant that great men like Nehru and Ataturk were closely attached to the children and younger generation of their country . . ."

After refreshments, documentaries on Jawharlal Nehru, "Playtime in India" and children's cartoons, were screened.

Election of Office-Bearers

The election of office-bearers of the Ankara branch of the Indo-Turkish Cultural Association followed the function. Prof (Dr) Abidin Itil was re-elected the President for the year 1972-73, and Prof (Dr) Neset Cagatay, the Vice-President. Mrs Ahyan Onsel was elected the — Secretary Mrs Aysin Karanfilli Treasurer. These would constitute the Executive Committee, besides Prof Sita Ram and Mr Somnath Dhar, First Secretary (Information and Culture) of the Indian Embassy—the latter ex-officio.

INDIAN FILMS POPULAR IN TURKEY

Indian films known in Turkey since and before the days of Raj Kapoor's productions, continue to be popular in Turkey.

Five Ankara cinemas, recently ran the film "On Bir Cockler Bekar" (Indian title "Brahmachari"). The film, starring Shammi Kapoor, Rajshree, Mumtaz and Pran, was released in Istanbul earlier in the year. The film "Arzoo" is shortly due to be screened for a second time in Ankara.

The dubbing of a number of recent Indian films into Turkish has been completed. These are "Cennet macrasi" (Indian title "Jhuk Gaya Aasman") featuring Rajendra Kumar, Saira Banoo, Pran Chopra, etc; "Boyuk Oyun" ("Shatranj), featuring Rajendra Kumar and Waheeda Rehman; "Yeni Zaman" ("Naya Zamana"), featuring Dharmendra, Hema Malini, Mehmood, Pran and Ashok Kumar; "Avrupadan Gelen Gelen" ("Purab Paschim"), starring Manoj Kumar, Saira Banvo, Ashok Kumar, Pran, etc; "Sen Guzel Ben Yaksil" (Tum Haseen Men Jawan"), featuring Dharmendra, Hema Malini, Pran, etc ; Sen Gelden Bahar Geldi" ("Aap Aye Bahar Ayi"), starring Rajendra Kumar, Sadhana, Pran Chopra, etc; "Iyi Bir Insan" ("Gopi"), starring Dilip Kumar, Saira Banvo Pran, Om Parkash; and "Yedi Suval" ("Hatim Tai").

A Turkish Cultural Troupe performed recently at Delhi, Jaipur, Bombay and Madras.

The photograph shows the troupe with India's charged Affaires in Ankara (5th from right) and Mrs Gajendra Singh. Mr Necdet Colakoglu is seen on the C. d'A's right. On the extreme left is Mr Sommath Dhar, First Secretary (Information & Culture), Embassy of India, Ankara. On his left is Miss. Nurden Erdem, one of the dancers.

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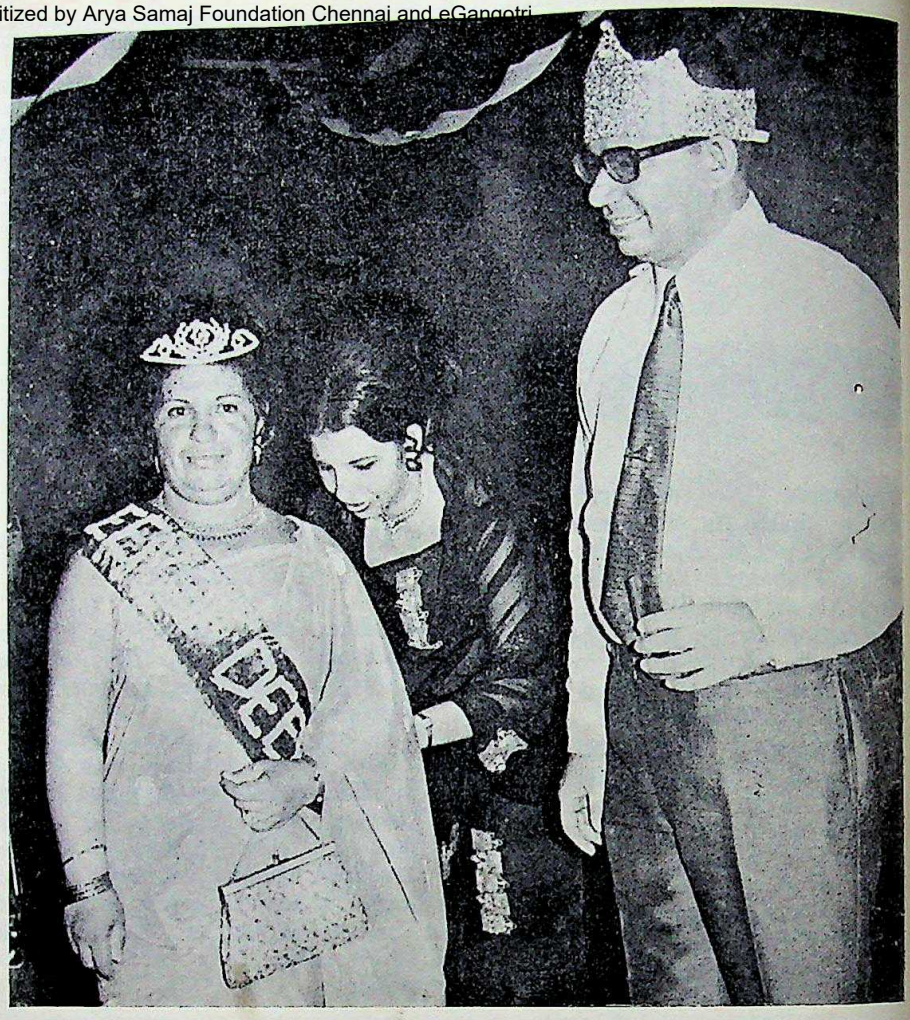
INDONESIA

The Bombay merchants Association gave a buffet dinner party to members on Deepawali Eve on 4th Nov. 1972 at the Overseas City Restaurant. ⇨

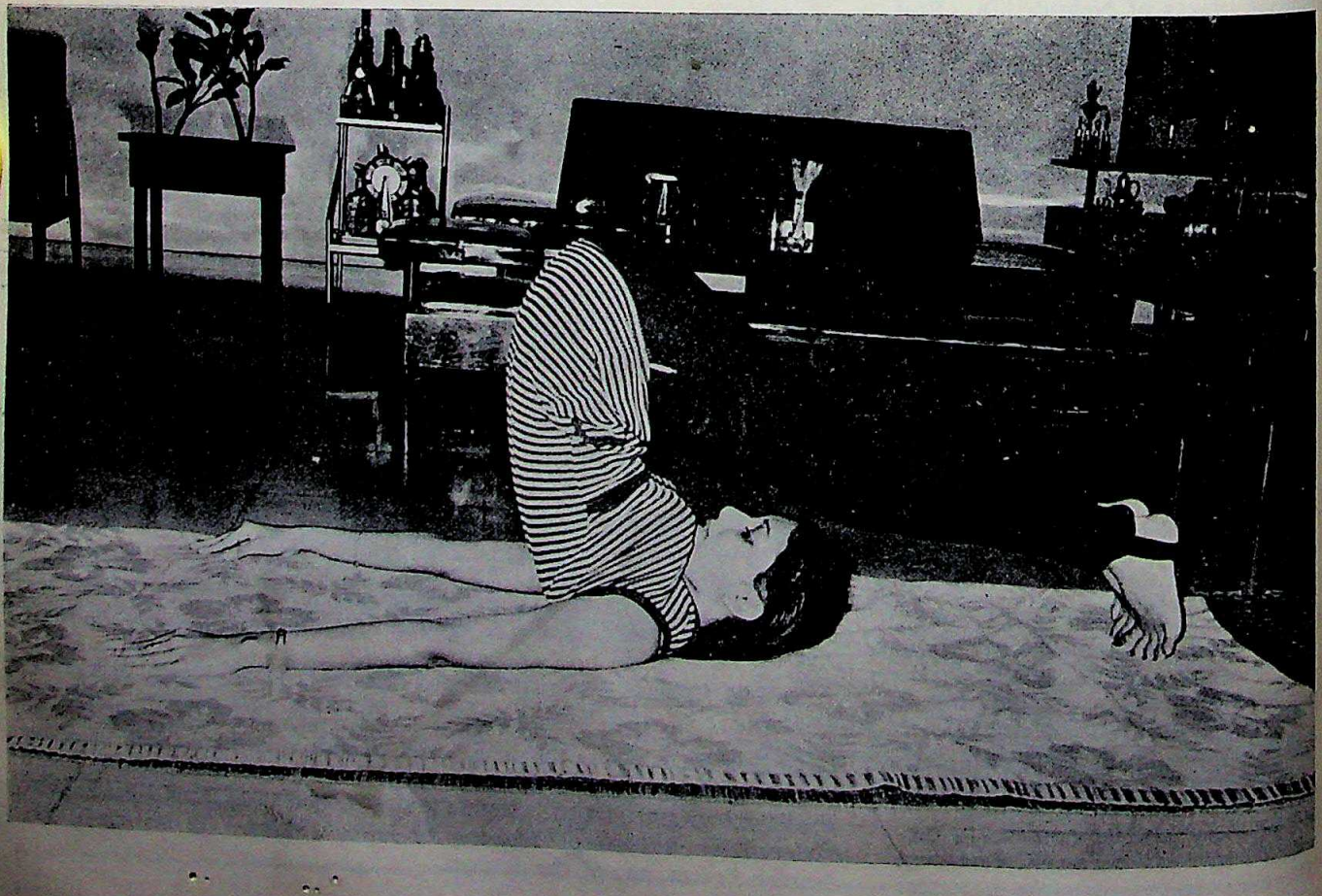
Seen in photo Mr & Mrs Arjan Mirchandani as King and Queen of the Deepawali Eve.



* * *

Miss Pushpa Thakurdas Vatvani in her yoga posture. She has expanded the teaching of yoga in Jakarta not only among the Indians here but also among hundreds of foreigners here.

She learnt yoga from her Spiritual Master Swami Nityananda-Saraswati from Raigarh, India, who is here at present and will be on a world tour next month. ⇩



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UGANDA

Hospitality at Nairobi

The Indian High Commissioner to Kenya, Mr K. C. Nair, was among scores of Nairobi residents and social welfare workers who met about 340 Asians passing through Nairobi recently on their way to India from Uganda.

The Asians from Uganda stopped at Nairobi Railway Station where they were given food, dried milk, blankets, medical attention and clothes.

About 60 of the passengers, who joined this train at Mbale, said they were stripped bare by Uganda Police and Army personnel and their ornaments, watches, travellers' cheques and drafts were confiscated.

Two senior officials of the Indian High Commission in Kampala travelled with the train from Kampala along with a police escort and patrolled the entire train every couple of hours to see that all the passengers, mostly Indian nationals, were safe and unmolested.

by

Kul Bhushan

Our Special Correspondent

The Officials and police left the train at Tororo before it entered Kenya.

Passengers in the two bogies from Mbale, which mostly carried employees of the African Textile Mills, complained of the harsh treatment they suffered when they were thoroughly searched.

"When they liked anything they just took it away, after scattering all our belongings all over the place," said Ajit Singh a former resident of Kampala. "The lady inspectors took off all the gold ornaments which the womenfolk were wearing".

Manoj Naik, a technician originally from Ahmedabad, said: "They took away our radios, tape recorders and even any used clothing which they fancied."

At Tororo, the entire train was again searched and any currency found, on the passengers was taken away.

Under the eyes of a Kenyan Policeman, Nairobi Asian presents blankets for Uganda Refugees.

Indian Social Workers help them with food and drink at Nairobi Railway station.

"Anybody protesting was badly beaten up," said Ratilal Hirji, a building supervisor who worked for Mowlem in Kampala. "They hit my younger brother, Zaverilal, on his left eye, badly bruising it, because as we were about to board the train in Kampala he went to buy a bottle of gripe water for a baby travelling with us."

At Jinja, when some passengers went to book their luggage, it was broken into and looted by Army personnel before the eyes of the owners, said a paper technician from that town.

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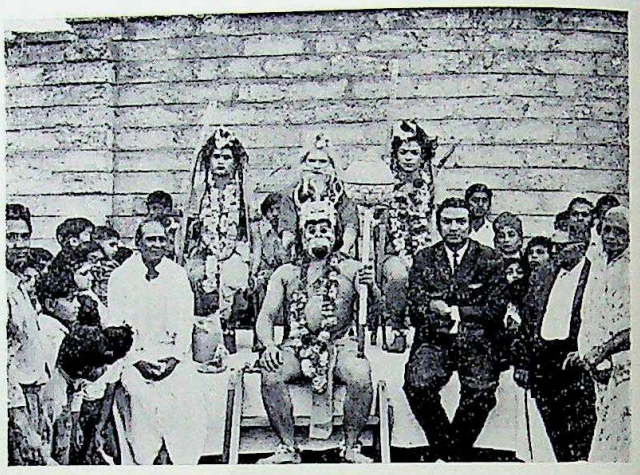
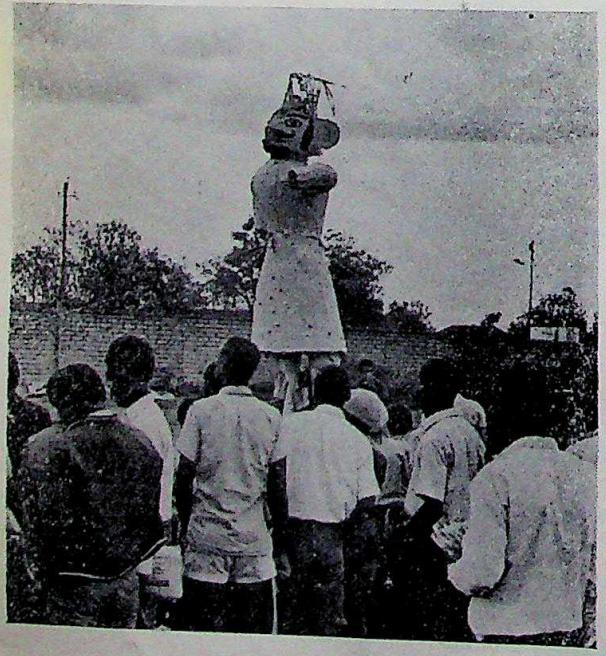
NAVRATRI CELEBRATIONS IN NAIROBI

Picture Feature by Sudesh Tateri

The Hindu Festive Season starts off with Navratri—nine nights of worship of Goddess Durga and Amba by the Gujarati community as the graceful ladies dance 'GARBA' and 'RAAS' round the pictures and idols of the dieties. In last few years in Nairobi, the community organises these Navratri celebrations under huge canopies where thousands come to watch and only sari clad women and white Kurta clad men or boys are allowed to dance.



Along with the Ravana, the SSD Sabha also has the main Ramayana characters come to life as Rama, Lakshman and Hanuman are dressed up to go round and tour the grounds before brining down Ravana. Here the SSDS Secretary Mr Krishan Tateri (in suit) attends the Ram durbar with the local priest in white robes.



Tenth day is Dussera when the local Sanatan Dharam Sabha constructs a huge effigy of Ravana and thousands turn up at these playgrounds to watch it burn. "No, it is not Amin," these African spectators seem to say as the huge Ravana statute goes up for burning.

What a fantastic sight as Ravana goes up in flames at dusk, symbolising the triumph of good over evil.

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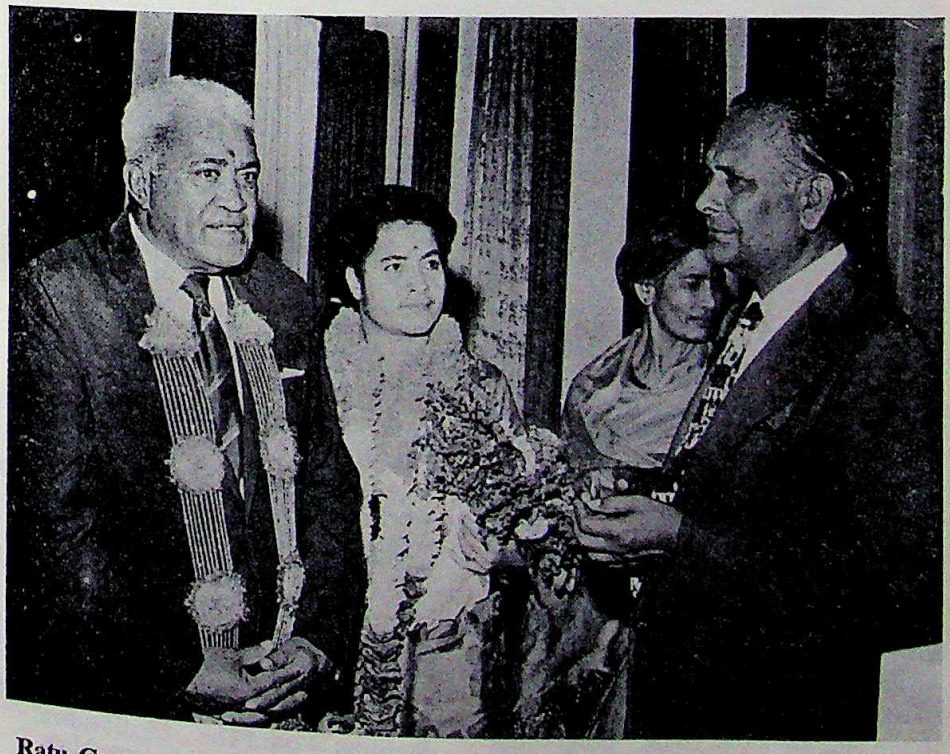
FIJI

A wholly Indian exhibition "India on the Move" was held in Suva from October 5 to 17, 1972. The exhibition was inaugurated by Ratu George Cakobau, Minister without Portfolio and Governor—General designate of Fiji on the evening of the 5th October, 1972.

Ratu George Cakobau, Minister without portfolio being greeted in traditional Indian style with an Arti on arrival at the Suva Civic Centre to open the Indian Exhibition "India on the Move."

From left to right: Mr K. Ravi Varma, Director of the Exhibition, Mr Bhag- Ratu George Cakobau, Adi Lelea, Mrs Bhagwan Singh and Mr Bhagwan Singh, Indian High Commissioner in Fiji, Ratu George Cakobau, Minister without portfolio and Adi Lelea.



Ratu George Cakobau and his wife Adi Lelea talking to Mr Bhagwan Singh, Indian High Commissioner in Fiji.

LIBERIA

On November 19, 1972 the Indian Association of Liberia elected following office bearers and Committee Members:—

President: Mr S. S. Bhattal of African Mercantile Agencies; Vice Prseident: Mr Murli Nawalrai of Apex International; Secretary-General: Mr Gul H. Mirchandani of Hirasons (Agencies) Inc., Executive Secretary: Mr Mohan N. Anandani of Baby Emporium and National Cinemas Inc., Treasurer: Mr K. P. Chandwaney of K. Pessumal & Sons, Committee Members: Mr Murli B. Dodani of Dodani Bros.; Mr Naresh S. Khemlani of Shamson; Mr Watumal C. Vaswani of Kwality; Mr Lal M. Mahtani of Satguru.

New office bearers pledged to work hard in order to participate in the development of Liberian Nation as well as to increase the prestige of Indians residing in Monrovia.

Recently, President of Liberia, Dr William R. Tolbert, Jr. launched National Fund Raising Rally for various developments in the country.

At the last meeting of the Association, Indians decided to contribute as much as possible the development plans and to run several programmes in order to raise money for President Dr Tolberts various plans. The first programme was organised at the Spanish Club on December 9, 1972 which was called Indian Nite. Indian Nite provided Dinner and an Indian Variety Show. Net proceeds of this Indian Nite were donated to National Fund Raising Rally.

There are about 500 Indians in Liberia, mainly engaged in import and wholesale business. They mainly import from the Far East. There are total of 98 firms in Liberia out of which 60 firms are importers and wholesalers, while others are in retail trade and mainly purchase locally.

Indian movies attract thousands of Liberians and the large Lebanese community in Liberia besides Indians. Latest movies regularly come to Liberia with efforts of Intra Film Distributors an associate firm of well-known Chotirmall organization.

Liberia is the oldest Republic in West Africa. Official language is English. Liberians are very friendly with foreigners staying here.

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KENYA

Indian entrepreneurs who have planned to invest their money in new projects in Kenya are not at all worried over Kenya's reported move to issue quit notices on non-citizen Asian traders.

They have edcided to go ahead with their plans. They are fully confident that the government of Kenya, which is sincerely interested in rapid industrialisation, will extend to them maximum co-operation.

These financiers and industralists who have already set up industries are aware of the Kenya government's gradual phase-out of Asian aliens. They feel that this is not much different from the India government's policy of nationalisation or confiscation of foreign interests.

Mr S. V. Dongre, managing director of the K. T. Dongre and Company, who had set up his plant in Nairobi in 1966, said his experience showed that the government was interested in assisting industrialists.

JOBS FOR AFRICANS

The Kenya government only saw to it that the jobs in the factories, set up by foreigners, were given to the local people. He said in his factory all the employees, except one, were Kenya citizens.

Kenya's courts' he said, always took a liberal view in this matter. He cited an example when a few years ago a rule was framed that only Africans would be allowed to sell vegetables in a particular market. When the rule was challenged in a court of law, the judge issued a ruling that the government had no right to discriminate against black, brown or white Kenyan citizens.

Another entrepreneur, Mr S. R. Salvi, who is going to set up a Rs 50-lakh project from January said that the Kenya government has given all the concessions regarding land, power, and provided money for constructing a factory building and purchasing machinery also.

He said he was going to set up a malleable cast iron foundry at Nairobi. His factory is being set up under the certificate of approved enterprise (both by the government of India and that of Kenya).

Mr Salvi, who has recently return ed from Kenya, was asked whether Kenya would go the Uganda way. One must take into account, he said, the system of government in both the countries. Kenya was a democracy under the sober leadership of Mr Jomo Kenyata, while Uganda was a totalitarian state. The Kenya government wanted Indian entrepreneurs to help it build the nation. He felt that Indians should not invest in Kenya just to take money to their homeland. They should train the local people to enable them to run industries.

A high official of the Khatau Makanji Spinning and Weaving Company, which was the first Indian company to start a textile mill in Kenya, told this reporter that the earlier reports about the Kenya government's policy on Asians were misleading.

The government of Kenya was committted to the Africanisation of trade. It had also publicly announced its intention to provide jobs to Kenya citizens. All entrepreneurs in Kenya were aware of it, he said.

He stated that the government had created two separate zones for trading—the citizens' zone and the non-citizens' zone. In a phased programme the number of the citizens' trading zones was being increased. Asian traders are asked either to do business in the non-citizen zones or to quit the country.

The Kenya government wanted Asian traders to invest money in industries in Kenya. The Khatau official said it would be in the interest of Indian traders to start new industires in Kenya as desired by the government.

ROME / ITALY

Prof Emilio Servadio speaking on greatness of Sri Aurobindo. To his left is the Indian Ambassador, Shri Apa B. Pant. To his right the actress Bianca Toccafondi (only partially visible) and Professor Guilio Cogni.

On 7th November, 1972 the Art and Cultural Centre of Rome organised in collaboration with the Indian Embassy, a programme to celebrate the Aurobindo Centenary. The function took place from 9.00 pm to 11.30 pm in the presence of the Indian Ambassador, Shri Apa B. Pant who had arrived in Rome on 5th November, 1972 after relinquishing his charge as High Commissioner of India in London. The programme was atended by about 500 persons of the aristocracy and the upper middle class, intellectuals and journalists. It consisted of the following:

An Exhibition of the complete works of Aurobindo and of books written on him;

A lecture by Prof Angelo Morretta on "Life and Work of Aurobindo"

A lecture by Prof Giulio Cogni on "The Inetgral Yoga"

A lecture by Count Pio Filippani Ronconi on "The Significance of Aurobindo for the Modern Man.

A lecture by Prof Emilio Servadio

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A reading by Actress Bianca Toccafondi from the "Last Poems" of Aurobindo translated into Italian by Mr Ugo Montanari.

The celebration was followed by a cocktail with Indian snacks.

The Indian Ambassador, Shri Apa B. Pant presented his credentials to the President of Italy on 21st November, 1972 and will be presented his credentials Malta where he is concurrently accredited as India's High Commissioner.

* * *

IWAKUNI / JAPAN

The Iwakunians got together on the 20th November to celebrate the birthday of Sri Guru Nanik Sahib. All of them assisted to make this day a memorable one. During the evening we had Kirtan followed by Pretti Bhojan.

Mast. Sunil H. Samtani is down in Iwakuni to join his parents for his winter holidays. He is a student at St. Pauls', Darjeeling.

Mr Babu S. Bharwani of Messrs. Shivsons Hongkong was in Iwakuni to visit his broher Mr. Ram Bharwani of Messrs. Sheilas.

Mr B. D. Chugani who was away to India on a holiday is back again to take care of his business.

Mr and Mrs P. R. Samtani of Tonys, left for India to attend the wedding of their brother.

Mr Murli M. Samtani is here to join his brothers Mr Nari and Ramesh Samtani of Messrs. "Sonus" and "Sundries".—**H. R. Samtani**

HONG KONG

Mr H. D. Billmoria, who has been Air India's Manager in Hong Kong for the past four years left the Colony, returning to his home-town of Calcutta. Mr Billimoria left on promotion to take up his new post as the airline's Manager Eastern India, and will have several off—line stations in Assam, Bengal, Bihar, Orissa and Nepal under his jurisdiction.

Seen at the luncheon reception organised by Indian Reform Club in the honour of Mr Billimoria are L to R: Mr C. S. Pinto, Mr J. Mulchand, Mr Billimoria and Mr I. P. Gohel.

Mr & Mrs Shyamsunder Jhunjhunwala gave a cocktail party for their daughter and son-in-law Mr & Mrs M. K. Mittal. Seen from L to R are: Mrs S. Sunder, Mrs R. K. Agarwal, Mr R. K. Agarwal, Mrs Kusum Mittal, Mr M. K. Mittal, Mr B. Goenka, Mr S. Sunder and Mr J. K. More.

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Gay gathering in Kowloon

The 'Young Petals'—a group of lovely young girls held their annual dinner dance party at Ambassador Hotel, Kowloon on 28th December 1972. Over 200 members and their guests were present.

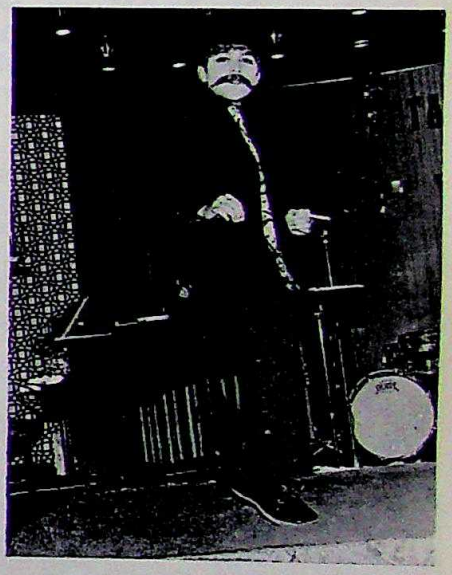
The highlight of the function was a fashion show. The entertainment was provided by young artists Sushila Mirpuri and Mahesh Mirpuri. Master Mahesh in his song number was terrific. We congratulate Sabrina Sujanani—the hard working president of the 'Young Petals' who put up such a magnificent show with the help of other members of the group. Keep it up, good work girsl!

Mr J. Mulchand while encouraging the artists and organisers for their efforts donated $1000 to group for charitable cause.

Mr J. Mulchand
. . . words of wisdom

Sabrina Sujanani
. . . show must go on.

Sushila Mirpuri
. . . a rising star.



Mahesh Mirpuri
. . . he stole the show.

PETAL'S FASHION SHOW

Chandra Lalwani Nimu Motwani Bala Mohinani Hardevi Sony Sujanani

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Anita M. Panjabi was awarded Guru Nanik Quincentenary Scholarship by the education scholarship fund committee. We congratulate Anita on her achievement.

EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIPS FUND COMMITTEE

This is to certify that

Anita M. Panjabi

of Sacred Heart Canossian School/College

has been awarded the

Guru Nanak Quincentenary Scholarship

by the above Committee for the year(s)

1972/77 (1st instalment)

Annual Value $400.00

Hong Kong 29th November, 1972

Director of Education

The ladies of the Indian Social Activity Group visited the Ebenezer School for the blind recently to serve special luncheon and distribute presents among the blind children of the school.

Narsing N. Jethwani of M/s. Kays Impex Corp, Hong Kong was engaged to Lalit daughter of Mr & Mrs Hariram Sujanani of Manila recently in Hong Kong.

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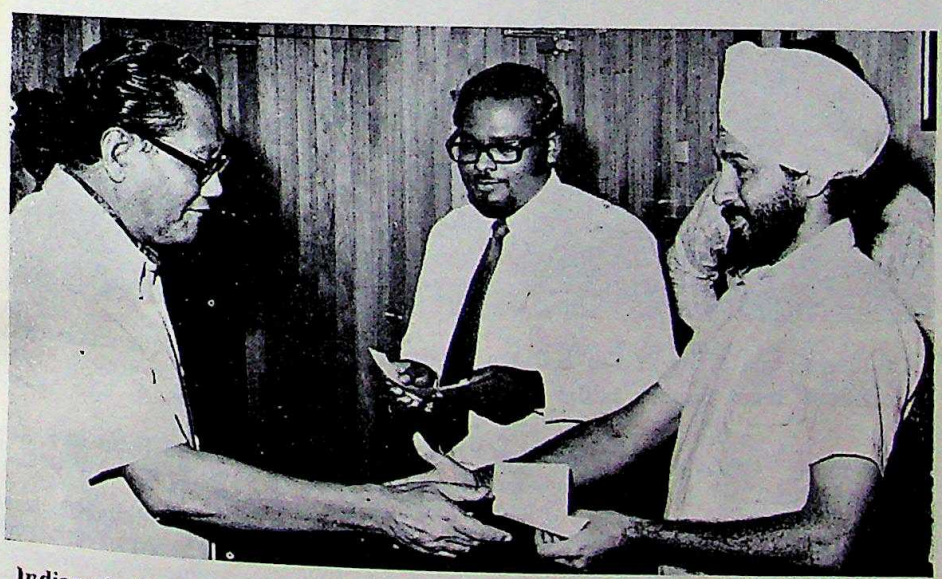
MALAYSIA / SINGAPORE

Joint Celebrations by Hindus and Muslims in Malaysia

With the Deepavali and Hari Raya (Ramadan) falling close to each other this year, the Hindus and Muslims jointly celebrated these two festivals and thereby strengthened their mutual friendship and goodwill and also helped to enhance racial solidarity among Malaysians as a whole.

Picture shows Minister of National Unity, Tun V.T. Sambantham speaking at one such celebration held in Kuala Lumpur on Nov. 11. It was organised by the Jalan Pekeliling Flats Goodwill Committee.

Indians Active in Consumers Movement in Malaysia



Indians in Malaysia are active in all walks of life and paricipate in all activities, social, cultural, political and economic, including even the consumers movement aimed at keeping prices at a fair and reasonable level.

Picture shows the secretary of the Negri Sembilan consumers Association, Mr J. Bulbir Singh, receiving a cheque from the Minister of Trade and Industry, Encik Mohd. Khir Johari at the minister's office in Kuala Lumpur on Nov. 20 Looking on is the secretary of the Selangor Consumers Association, Mr Kandiah Nagalingam who also received a similar cheque from the Minister. The presentation represented Government grants to the consumers associations in the various States in recognition of their useful role in the economy of the nation.

Metric watch

An Indian Air Force officer has developed what could probably be the first metric watch in the world. A standard model indicates metric time as well as the present time scale.

For Flt.-Lt. Brij Bhushan Vij, the development of a metric watch is no scientific fad but a serious attempt to simplify and make the measurement more accurate.

He feels—and he is in the company of eminent scientists—that the existing time measurement, which has been calculated on the basis of the movement of the moon, is not dependenable for astronomical calculations owing to the continuous changes in the rotational periods of the earth and sun.

BANGKOK

In Bangkok for four days from Hong Kong was the publisher of the Indian Magazine in Hong Kong, Mr K. Sital and his charming wife Lita. On 8th December, 1972 a dinner was thrown especially in their honour at the Orchid Room for friends and business colleagues by that popular couple around town, Roop and Vashi Purswani. Despite the heavy rain all friends turned up in full swing for sumptous Chinese meal. Some of the guests present were Mr. Ajit Singh Thakrai, President of the Indian Chamber of Commerce, Bangkok, Mr Amarnath Sachdev and Mr Nenu Hingorani, both past presidents of the Indian Chamber of Commerce in Bangkok. Indian Ambassador Mr Romesh Bhandari, who had just returned from India along with Mr Shamsher Singh, First Secretary of the Indian Embassy and Mr Hansraj, prominent Indian businessman were also present, as was Nigerian High Commissioner to India, Thailand, Burma and Sri Lanka Mr J. N. Ukegbu—**Bangkok World.**

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NEW DELHI

Indo-American Relations

Perhaps the most important non-official American to visit New Delhi since the progressive worsening of the Indo-U.S. relations is Billy Graham, world famous evangelist, who was recently on a sojourn to India. The hardened cynics in New Delhi's corridors of power facetiously dismissed him as God's Kissinger. But the Graham's visit was important, for two reasons.

Billy Graham is known to be a close personal friend of Richard Nixon and may well have been carying a letter from the American President to the Indian Prime Minister. He neither confirmed nor denied this at his New Delhi news conference. When a correspondent asked him about the letter, Graham skirted the question, declaring that he was the ambassador of nobody except the king of kings—God.

by Arvind Bhandari
Our special correspondent in India

Secondly, Graham is regarded as one of the world's most scintillating talkers. Some of the biggest congregations seen in the United States in recent years have been at his sermons. Could his evangelical persuasiveness have somewhat mellowed a legitimately angry Mrs Gandhi, whom he met at lengtn? It is an eloquent testimony to the emergence of global inter-dependence that the destiny of India's teeming millions cannot but be affected by the answer to this question.

Observers who have been closely studying the vicissitudes of Indo-American relations from the Indian end, and this correspondent is one of them, feel that it is high time that the respective governments, American and Indian, realised that nothing is to be gained by continued iciness on both sides. America is the world's most powerful democracy and India, in terms of population, is the biggest. It would be a pity if these two bulwarks of freedom were to continue to be at loggerheads, for they have much to gain from friendship.

India, as a developing nation, needs help and the United States, as a rich nation, is morally bound to help. There is no prestige issue involved in this. For the developed nations to help the developing nations is in consonance with the accepted norms of civilized international economic behaviour in the 20th century world.

Another drama scene at the Kalidas Festival. The play is an adopation of Meghdoot, most famous ballet written by the great poet.

The latest example of pettifogging in Indo-American relations is the American attitude towards India's need for import of foodgrains. The kharif crop (summer crop) has failed this year because of drought and there is a disconcerting depletion in food reserves. This compelled New Delhi to despatch the Union Food Secretary, Mr R. R. Behl, post-haste to Washington on a "secret" mission. Secret, because India is not sure of the American response. Even if India makes hard cash payment. The Nixon administration is—it would be on the basis of hardly in a mood to consider food aid to India and may even frown at exports on cash basis.

Pinpricks from the Indian side have not been lacking. In April this year the Indian Government permanently grounded the personal plane of the then American Ambassador, Mr Kenneth Keating, who was so sore about it that it remained a touchy topic with him till the day he departed from India in July.

And now comes the blanket ban on the use of Indian air space by American military aircraft. This interdiction of the US Military Airlift Command's round-he-world shuttle service after 23 years of permitted flights has

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been justified by New Delhi on the ground tnat the Americans should not enjoy convenienecs not accorded to other foreign missions.

Well-wishers of Indo-American relations, and there are many on both sides as the stiffness is essentially at the governmental level, fervently hope that there may be a movement towards detents in the near future. It is argued that the massive mandate received by Nixon from the American people may give him the confidence and the courage to rectify his mistakes in regard to the sub-continent in the wake of the Bangladesh developments.

Additionally, the impending switch of the Indian Ambassador at Washington is seen as a helpful portent. Not that L.K. Jha was not a fighter. In fact he did his job quite doggedly and articulately. But the American State Department did not pay sufficient heed to him, thinking that he did not count for much because he did not enjoy the complete confidence of the Indian Prime Minister. But the Americans are not likely to give the same short shrift to T.N. Kaul, presently Foreign Secretary and Jha's most likely successor. As Kaul is known to be a confidant of Mrs Gandhi, he can be expected to extract more response from the Americans in Washington.

The Kalidasa Festival

If Kalidasa is regarded as India's Shakespeare, Ujjain is the Indian Stratford-on-Avon. The annual All-India Kalidasa Festival at Ujjain is the Indian counterpart of Shakespeare festival at Stratford-on-Avon in England.

The Kalidasa Festival, which this correspondent attended recently, is today the most important cultural activity in India dedicated to the aspiration that the name of Kalidasa should continue to illumine the field of India's Sanskrit literature. The festival was marked by a flurry of dance and drama activity.

Dramas based on the works of Kalidasa particularly Shakuntala, Meghdoot and Malvika Agnimitra, were staged in Sanskrit by professional and university troupes drawn from different parts of the country. Sanskrit debates and verse recitation contests were organised at school and college levels. An all-India art exhibition of paintings based on the Mahakavi's works was remarkable for the accent on modern art.

Ujjain's Vikram University held a symposium at which research papers on Kalidas were presented. Some of these have been sought for reference by German scholars at Hamburg in West Germany.

A scene from "Shakuntala", famous epic of Kalidas which was staged at the All India Kalidas Festival held at Ujjain, in central India, recently.

There is, however, one difference between Ujjain and Strat-ford-on-Avon. It is not definite that Kalidasa was born in Ujjain, several places laying claim to his birthplace. Ujjain's claim to host anual Kalidas festival is based on the frequent occurrence of the name of the temple town in the works of the great poet. Of the 108 stanzas in the epic ballet poem, Meghdoot, 11 are devoted to a detailed description of Ujjain, supporting the surmise that Kalidas must have lived in Ujjain for a long time even if he was not born there.

Ujjain's claim to the festival is also based on the fact that Ujjain has had a tradition of Sanskrit. Vikram Universiy is considered an important seat of Sanskrit learning in the country. And now he Indian University Grants Commission has sanctioned a scheme for research into the 35-volume works of Raja Bhoj, rated only next to Kalidas in Indian Sanskrit tradition.

Vikram University recently secured some microfilms of some important unpublished manuscripts of Raja Bhoj which have been preserved at the British Museum in London.

* * *

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Battle lines drawn in Andhra

With the announcement by the Prime Minister on 27 November in Parliament of the five-point formula on Mulki Rules the battle lines are drawn in Andhra Pradesh.

Just a few days before the announcement of the five-point formula about 30 people died in police firings on the day of Andhra Bandh. Immediately after that and before the announcement of the formula the Central Reserve Police was reinforced and army took positions in district towns.

Now practically every village in the Andhra region is a battle front, of course sans violence. The whole mass of people—men and women, young and old—are out on the streets demanding either the scrapping of the Mulki Rules or separation of Andhra.

Sensing the mood of the people, nine Ministers, including the Deputy Chief Minister, from the Andhra region sought the permission of their Party High Command to resign their offices. However, the High Command consoled them patience.

by

K. R. Seshagiri Rao

The N.G.O.'s in the region are on an indefinite strike. In some places Assistant Civil Surgeons and Nurses have joined their ranks. The Lawyers are boycotting the courts. The government pleaders are resigning their offices. Popular leaders are resigning their offices in panchayati raj institutions and municipalities. This is across party lines. The one—and the only one—slogan in the Andhra region is "Scrap the Mulki Rules or Separate Andhra."

A New Front

It is in this context that Sardar Goutu Latchanna resigned from the Chairmanship of the State unit of the Swatantra Party and organized Andhra Praja Parishad to give an institutional base and shape to the movement. Almost all the opposition leaders including some Congress men are associated with it.

Crazy driving

Andhra Pradesh is again on the verge of splitting. Scenes like these are common on the streets of Andhra towns.

The leaders of the new front are on the move from place to place exhorting the people to be prepared for any sacrifices. As a first step they are advocating nonpayment of government land revenue. People are turning out in thousands to hear the message personally.

Passive Resistance

People in the Telangana region are equally determined to get the Mulki Rules implemented in toto. That is why they too are dissatisfied with the five-point formula of the Prime Minister.

But their modus operandi of the agitation is passive resistance. During the 1969 agitation when they agitated for separate Telangana there was no method under the heading violence that was not resorted to. They made many sacrifices at that time and lost many lives. But it is now exactly the opposite.

The students' action committees, which spearheaded the 1969 movement, are now passing resolutions for the implementation of the Mulki Rules in toto. The NGOs who were instrumental for the 1969 movement, are threatening strikes if the Mulki Rules are diluted or abridged.

Legislators, particularly Congress Legislators, are sending representations to the Prime Minister to uphold the Mulki Rules in full. They are blaming the Telangana leadership for having "let down" the people of the region.

Secretariat at Standstill

Because of the passions roused in both the regions and also because the secretariat staff are the first affected either way by the Mulki Rules, the State administration is at a standstill. Every day there is a strike in the secretariat by one or the other group of employees. Even the files are taking sides. No file moves from an "Andhra" table to a "Telangana" table and vice versa for the two "tables" do not see eye to eye these days.

Leadership in Quandary

The dissatisfaction of the people from both the regions put the State leadership in a quandary. The whole Council of Ministers went all the way to Delhi and personally assured the

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Prime Minister that whatever her award would be on the Mulki Rules it would be honoured and binding. They also told her that the formula should be within the framework of an integrated State. They also assured her that the people of Andhra Pradesh had the greatest faith in her leadership and impartiality.

Now, the cat is out. The people from both the regions are not in a mood, for their own different reasons, to hear the explanations of the leaders. They are out on the streets. The base is slipping from under the feet of the leaders. In fact, no Congress man now dare go before the people, in either region, to convince them that only the five-point formula can save the integrity of the State. If they are coming into open it is only to oppose the formula.

Student Leadership in Kerala

For a change, Kerala is going to have a new political leadership in terms of both generation and class—the students. This is particularly so with regard to the Congress. In the Congress, the student and youth wings have acquired a dominant position. In fact, the Congress owes its new life to the student and youth leadership. What is more, they have now become a force to be reckoned with in the State political arena.

This is the reason for the Marxist and other opposition parties training all their guns in the State Assembly and outside on the pro-Congress Kerala Students' Union (KSU) and the Youth Congress rather than on their elders and ministers. They, however, accuse the latter and, particularly, the Congress Home Minister, indirectly of shielding the KSU and the Youth Congress members and encouraging them to take to "dagger politics" and function as an "unlawful force."

At the root of the uncomfortable position of the Marxists is their open accusation that the Congress youth and student wings are in active collusion with the Naxalite elements of their own creation and trying to bring them down. They see in these "tactics" a similarity with the link between the Youth Congress and the extremist Chathra Parishad in West Bengal which gave the CPM a rough time in the last Assembly elections.

Some of the partners of the Congress in the ruling alliance are themselves not happy over the growing influence of the KSU and the Youth Congress. Muslim League leaders, for instance, have been complaining openly that the KSU and the Youth Congress are taking the law into their own hands and are demanding that the KPCC leadership should "bridle" them.

All this would go to show that the KSU has become the target of opposition because of its controlling position in the university and college unions in particular and in State politics in general. However, a sad commentary on the campus scene is the growing addiction to drink among the students and free use of leathal weapons such as knives, daggers, and cycle chains.

When asked in the State Assembly recently about facilities for teaching Kathakali in schools, the Education Minister remarked: "Even without facilities students are enacting their own Kathakali, which we witness in this Assembly too sometimes." Questioned about the use of leathal weapons by students in their clashes, the Minister's answer was: "They are perhaps trying to ape politicians."

Workers' Incentive to Employer!

The direct workmen of the Hindustan Machine Tools, Kalamassery, announced a present of a Rolex automatic watch and a gold medal to the general manager if he allotted every direct workman of the plant minimum 150 standard hours of work during the months of October, November and December. They had also offered a Seiko automatic watch and a silver medal to the production manager besides a grand dinner to the families of both the executives at a local posh hotel.

Regionalism in Mysore

Recently some student organizations in Gulbarga district have met and decided for demanding the implementation of the Mulki Rules in Mysore State also.

The Mulki Rules were issued by the Nizam through a firman in 1918. They were applicable in the "State of Hyderabad". The recent Supreme Court judgement said that they were in force.

Since the Mulki Rules are applicable to the "State of Hyderabad," by implication, the student organizations say, they are applicable to the Karnataka region of Mysore State which was formerly a part of the "State of Hyderabad". Therefore, they want proportionate representation in the State services—as is now the case in Andhra Pradesh.

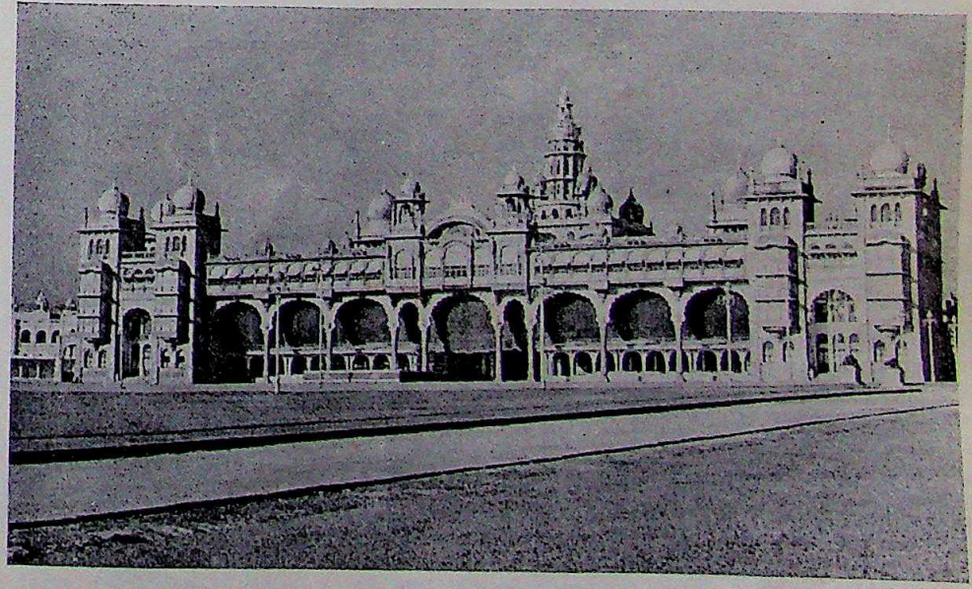
The student organizations have only mooted the idea. Later the Bar Association of Gulbarga has also endorsed the students' idea. However, it has not reached any serious proportions. Perhaps they are awaiting the outcome of the agitation in their "native land".

"Sons of the Soil"

Incidentally, there is an agitation at the State level to give more job opportunities to Mysoreans in the Central government undertakings located in the State.

The impression that a major share of the new job opportunities have

The Royal Palace, Mysore



Appeals to old glory and past traditions are used to fan regional feelings. A piece of beauty becomes a hate symbol.

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gone to non-Mysoreans is being shared by the State government, trade union leaders, and politicians. The agitation by the Kannada Chaluvaligar organization against the employment of Tamilians and Keralites "at the cost of Kannadigas" is an example of the dissatisfaction of the "sons of the soil".

"Golden" Egg to Order

You can now make your hen lay "golden" eggs by feeding it with five teaspoonfuls of turmeric in every 50kg. of chicken feed. And if you prefer them pink, you can feed the hen with three spoonfuls of chilly powder in the same amount of the feed. The Assistant Poultry Director claims that this colour effect has been achieved by the Kerala State Poultry Department at Cannanore.

The DMK Breathes Again

The DMK has now overcome the initial shock. The DMK workers are now in the midst of the people. They have turned the tide against the onslaughters.

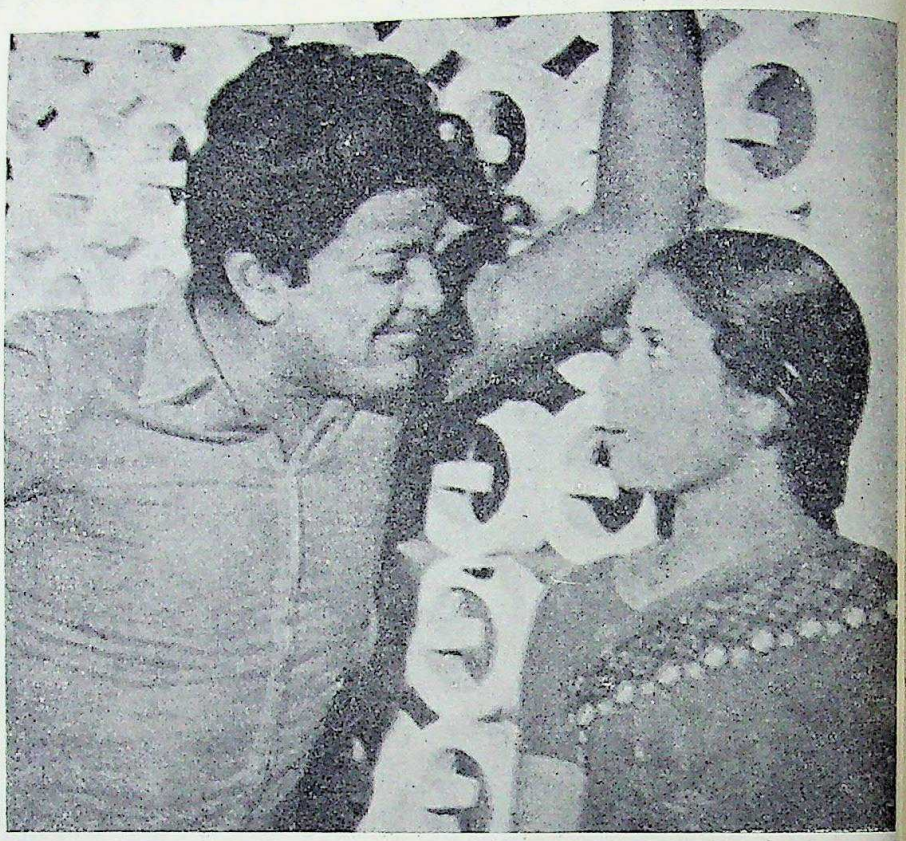
Public orators as they are, the DMK rank and file are pouring into the ears of the Tamilians about the dream of Anna—to save Dravidanad from Northern invasion. They show behind the MGR outbrust the invisible hand of Delhi—which for them represents the North.

They have a powerful argument against MGR: He is a Keralite. Should the leadership of Tamil Nadu go to a Non-Tamilian? Who is Manoharan? He is also a Keralite! Then, should Tamilians accept the leadership of a Malayalee?

As against the six hundred thousand people who on the first day came out on to the streets to demonstrate their "no-confidence" in the Karunanidhi Ministry only six hundred went on a later date to Karunanidhi's residence to demand his resignation. On that occasion Mr Karunanidhi received the delegation of his "constituents" and told them that it would be undemocratic for him to resign on the demand of six hundred voters when sixty thousand elected him.

Anyway, the battle royal has now shifted from the streets to the High Court and the Assembly. Here, too, the Karunanidhi Ministry has won the first battle when the High Court held that the Governor had the right to prorogue the Assembly.

Boy, O Boy



Tamil Nadu Chief Ministers' son Muthuvel is a film actor. He is being groomed as a rival to MGR. Here, Muthu is seen in action in the Tamil film Boy, O Boy, story & songs were written by Karunanidhi.

Whatever be the outcome of the remaining writs pending before the High Court, the Karunanidhi Ministry is in for trouble. If the present trend continues with regard to the proceedings of the Assembly, it is a matter of time when the Centre intervenes on the grounds of consitutional breakdown and imposes President's rule in the State.

You Said It

By Laxman

Sorry I am late—couldn't find a place to park the car.

Any Takers!

To prove how baseless and hollow were the corruption charges made against him by MGR, Mr Karunanidhi offered to sell his entire property and also that of his relatives to MGR for ten lakh rupees; and MGR could pay the CM's debtors from this amount. Mr Karunanidhi was agreeable to receive the balance amount in easy instalments if MGR could not pay it in one instalment. Alternatively he was prepared to purchase MGR's and his relatives' (to be specified by the CM) property for twenty lakh rupees by raising funds from the public.

MGR's reply was that the CM's offer showed how effluent the latter became after 1967 for in that year Mr Karunanidhi as the DMK Treasurer could not raise ten lakh rupees for party election expenses and that too when Anna was alive. Anyway, he was not prepared to accept the offer either way because a number of his income tax appeals were pending in the court.

Now that the deal has not come through between the old friends, are there any takers among the overseas Indians!

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GLEANINGS FROM INDIAN PRESS

Obituary

● Chakravarti Rajagopalachari passed away at the age of 94 (see Viewpoint)

● S. R. Vasavada, an eminent labour leader and secretary of the Majdoor Mahajan, Ahmadabad passed away afer a brief illness. He was 71.

● Pothan Joseph, a famed Indian journalist died after a prolonged illness. It was a double tragedy. Pothan's brother who worked as Assistant Editor of the Hindustan Times, died on the same day in a car accident.

Mr Pothan Joseph

Honours

— Mother Teresa, the Yugoslav —born Catholic nun who works amongst the outcasts of Calcutta was given the Nehru Award for International understanding (see spotlight).

— Acharya Vinoba Bhave was awarded an honorary Ph. D. degree by the Gujrat University. A few days later, Vinoba shaved off his beard. Asked for the reason he said, "To lake off my academic aura".

— B. R. Patel, India's ambassador to Belgium has been elected chairman of the contracting parties of Gatt & Unctad for 1972-73.

Mr B. R. Patel.

— Film actor, Balraj Sahni was invited to preside over the annual convocation of the Jawaharlal Nehru University at New Delhi. This is for the first time that an artist has been invited for the honour.

— Sahir Ludhianvi, Upender Nath Ashk, both Urdu poets, and Gholam Quddus, Debiprasad Chatopadhyaya, both Bengali poets won the Soviet Land Nehru Awards for the year 1972.

— Prem Kirpal, utnil recently chairman of the UNESCO's executive board has been awarded a U.N. gold metal for his services in the field of education and for promoting mutual appreciation of East-West cultures.

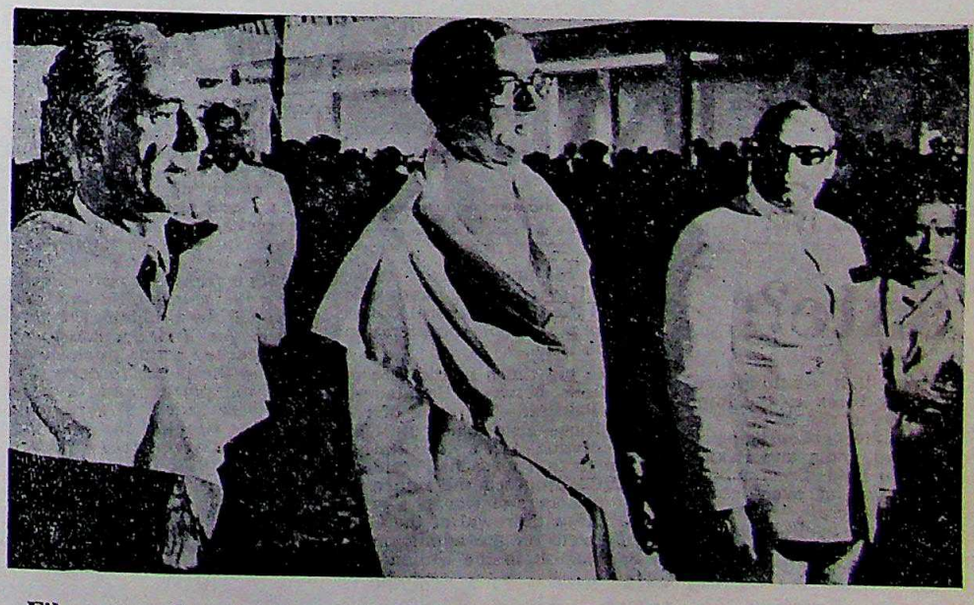
Trade

— The Government of India has decided to take over dry fruit import trade. A public sector corporation is being set up to manage the business.

— The Santacruz Bonded Zone (Duty free manufacturng zone) in Bombay will be administered by a Board of Management. Applications will be received by the Department of Electronics, Government of India, New Delhi.

— All foreigners and non-resident Indians visiting India must pay their hotel bills in foreign currency (non rupee) only. The rules became effective on Nov. 1, 1972.

— The ISI is making arrangements to apply 100 percent quality control check on Indian made cars.



Film actor Balraj Sahni (left) arriving at the Jawaharlal Nehru University to deliver the convocation address. Next to him are Vice-Chancellor G. Parthsarathi, and Lt. Governor Baleshwar Prasad.

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Gleanings from Indian Press

— Sweden has given India an aid of Rs 380 million, Rs 60m... to be spent before March 31, 1973 for importing machinery, spares and components. Imports will be done on soft loan basis, repayable in 50 years and with only 0.75 percent interest. Technical assistance will be outright grant.

— India plans to purchase wheat from world markets. The Agriculture Minister, Mr A. P. Shinde, told Parliament's Upper House that if India imported foodgrains from the United States it would do so "on normal commercial terms."

He told that proposals to import foodgrains were under consideration but no definite decision has been made as to quantity.

"If need be, we will import and try to make up the shortfall in domestic production," he said.

Mr Shinde said that if India does import "we will purchase the foodgrains from the United States or any other country on normal commercial terms and there is no question of begging from any country."

He said the shortfall in the winter foodgrains crop might be between five million and seven million tons, adding that as of October 1 the Government held 5.4 million tons in buffer.

Mr Malik

The last governor of East Bengal, Mr Malik has been awarded a life term by the trial court of Bangladesh. He was found guilty of all charges.

The UNESCO has given India US$1 million to establish a T.V. training and research institute at Delhi.

Balyogeshwar

The customs at Delhi airport seized a box belonging to a yogi, Balyogeshwar, containing underclared currency, jewellery and watches tentatively assessed to be worth about Rs 5... lakhs.

Balyogeshwar, 14-year-old head ... the Divine Light missio..., who arriv... from New York by a chartered flig... had told the customs before he l... the airport that he had nothing ... declare.

The sources said the aircraft, ... which about 350 followers of ... yogi from abroad also arrived, h... carried two boxes belonging ... Balyogeshwar.

After the yogis had left for the ci... his secretary stayed on at the airp... for customs clearance.

When the customs asked the secr... tary for the keys of the two boxes ... told them that he had the key f... only one and the key of the oth... had been left in the U.S., the sourc... said.

The customs found only so... papers in the box for which the k... was available.

When the second box was opene... they found the undeclared curren... and other valuables.

The sources said the currency w... worth Rs 4 lakhs, the value of t... jewellery and watches was tentativ... estimated at Rs .5 lakhs.

Amin wants to be host

President Idi Amin has invited t... Commonwealth heads of states ... hold their next conference in Ugan...

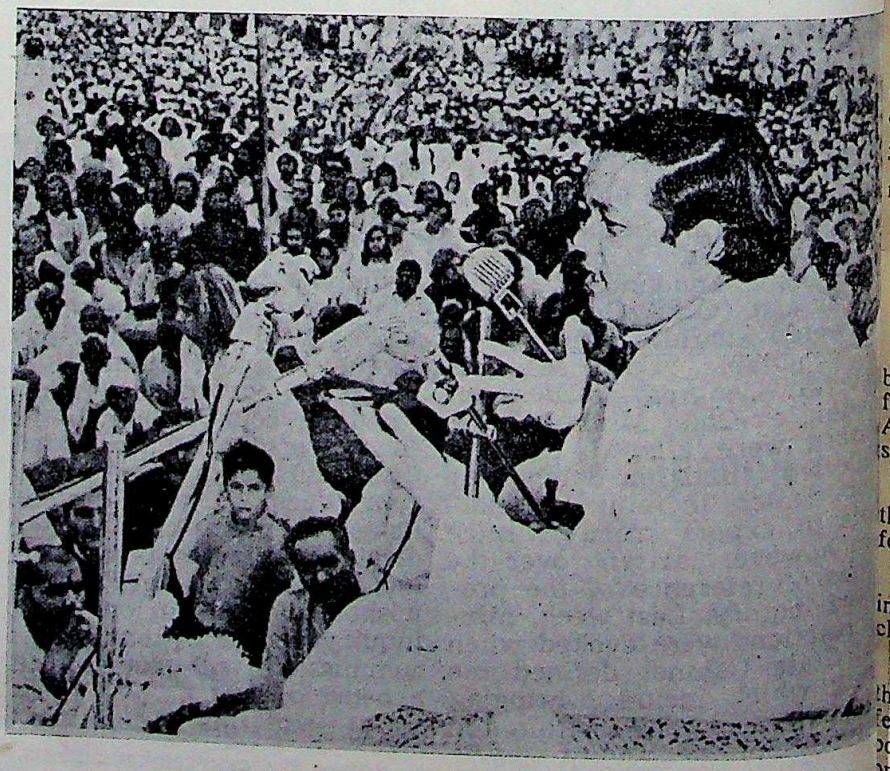
Miscellania

Second class travel on the Indian railways is being abolished in a phased programme. There will be only the first and the third class bogies on most trains.

The Central government has advised all Universities not to interfere with wearing "tight pants and mini skirts" by the youth. Recently, there was a big student trouble in Bombay on this issue.

A baby boy was born to a sikh lady aboard an Air India flight from Delhi to Beirut, enroute London. The pilot brought the plane back to Bombay, deposited mother and child with a hospital authorities, and took off for London 45 minutes later.

The Indian Government has given permission to the Ethiopian airlines to fly to China via India with traffic rights at Bombay. In return, Air India will fly from Addis Ababa to any place in Africa and the Indian Ocean, clock wise or anticlock wise.



Balyogeshwar addressing his followers.

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Gleanings from Indian Press

Gen Amin said in a cable to the Commonwealth secretariat secretary-general, Mr Arnold Smith, "If the Commonwealth is to have real meaning for all concerned, summit conferences of the group should be held evenly in all regions and in all continents where the Commonwealth is represented and not merely in capitals of American, European or Asian continents."

The next Commonwealth conference, in August, 1973, is scheduled to be held in Ottawa.

In search of a 'Mahatma'

A world-wide search will begin for an actor to play the role of Mahatma Gandhi in a new multi-million dollar film.

Director Richard Attenborough, on the first leg of a 70,000-km. tour to promote his film "Young Winston" about the early life of Sir Winston Churchill, said he will be hunting for an actor to portray the Indian leader.

"I met Prime Minister Nehru before he died and he wanted an Englishman to play Gandhi if ever a film was made", Mr Attenborough said. "Nehru said that an English actor would be amusing, but really I would like an Indian for the role."

The director added that he planned to go to India soon to see as much theatre and cinema as possible in the hope of spotting the right person.

The Gandhi film, with shooting starting in the new year, is to be filmed in India with an English and American cast in supporting roles. The project will be three years in the making.

Uganda not written off by tycoon

Mr Manubhai Madhavani, Uganda's biggest industralist, who was expelled from the country along with other Asians by President Amin, has been staying quietly in Bombay.

He is booked in the Dutch suite of the Taj Mahal Hotel and has spent a few days resting in Poona.

The elusive millionaire's presence in the city was not known to even his closest friends and associates.

He denied that he was hiding from the press, "I was only relaxing for a few days," he said. "Newspaper boys are my friends, they were in prison wih me."

Mr Madhvani looked relaxed, dressed in a white bush-shirt with brass buttons and talked of Uganda with an air of nostalgia.

"We have still got confidence in Uganda, we have not written it off," he said.

Asked if his confidence was in Uganda or President Amin, he said, "Both."

He was careful about what he said about President Amin, who, before his (Mr Madhvani's) arrest, was reported to be a great friend of his.

He said: "I believe in God, President Amin believes in God, I am sure he will be fair and reasonable to me and my family. I respect him."

Grim hostesses

Air-hostesses of Indian Airlines do not smile when passengers board the aircraft, Mr Joachim Alva complained in the Rajya Sabha.

He said these air-hostesses knew neither the geography of the land nor how to entertain the passengers "nicely."

"We want better air-hostesses," he said while participating in the discussion on the working of Indian Airlines.

Mr Manubhai Madhvani, Uganda's biggest industrialist, who has been expelled by President Amin, and his wife, Jyoti, snapped at the Taj Mahal Hotel, Bombay, where he is staying.

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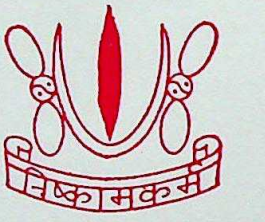

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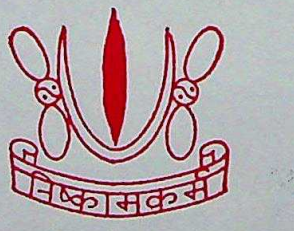

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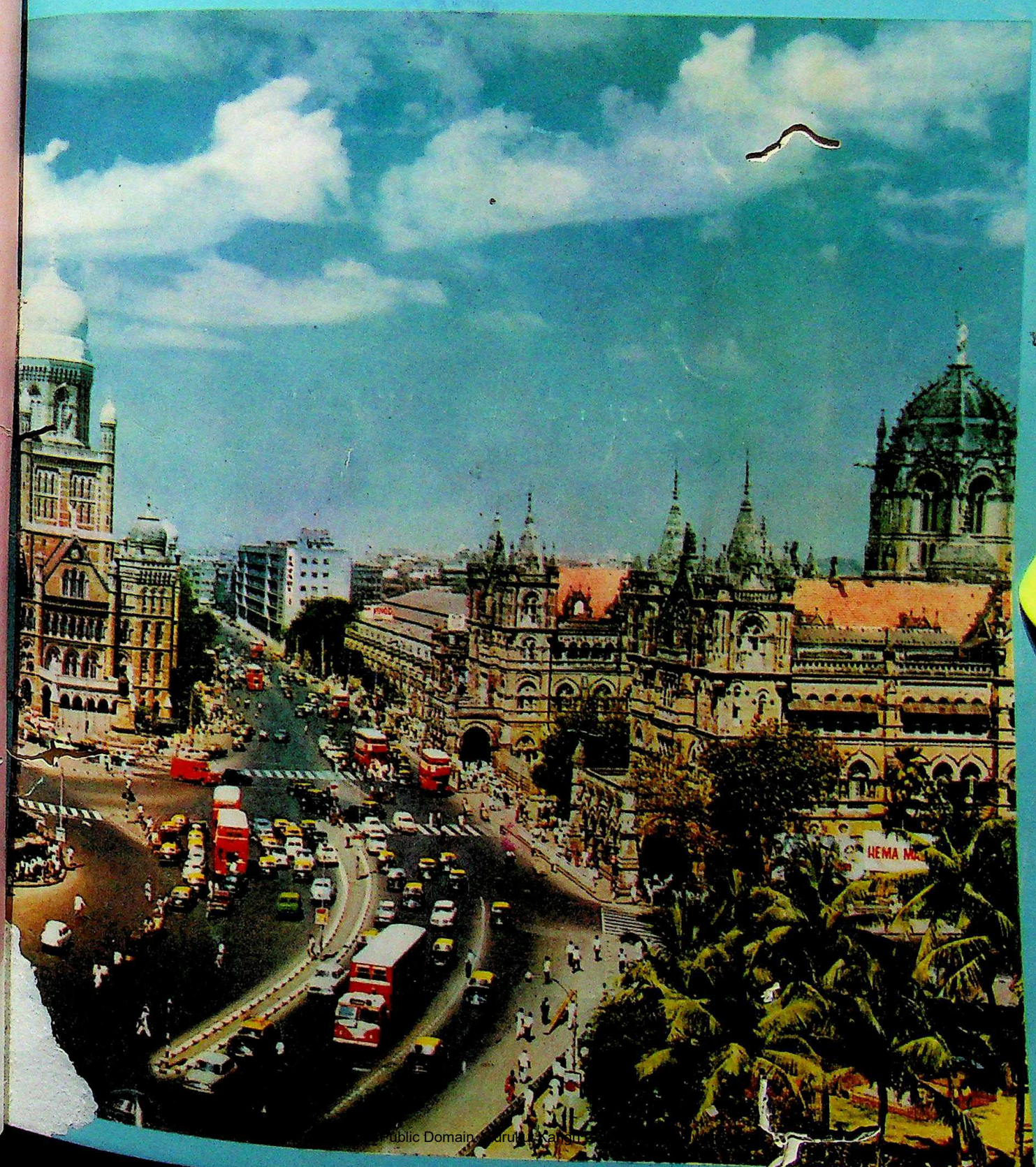

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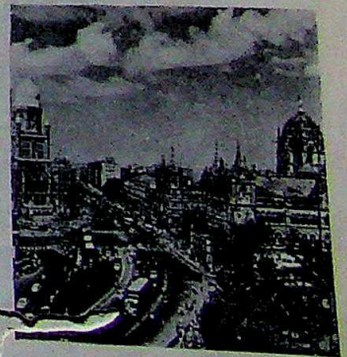

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Samaiki

L. Sitaul

Form Apex Councils

Overseas Indian communities all over the world have organised themselves into various groups, depending upon size, needs and specific local situations. In many countries, they have formed political or semi-political bodies to protect their interests vis-a-vis other communities. But I refer to trading, social and cultural organisations only.

The Indian Chambers of Commerce, Indian Merchants' Associations etc., cater to business firms and companies. India Associations or India Clubs serve social and cultural needs. And depending upon the size and structure, numerous groups have been formed on the basis of regional origin or religious beliefs.

Formation and existence of these religious and regional organisations is useful if the purpose is to reach more people and to be of a greater use to them. But if such groups are formed due to clash of personalities or conflict on certain issues and if these groups adopt closed door policies, no purpose is served. Soon the group gets isolated and fades away.

Overseas Indians should realize that despite their belonging to different language groups, religious beliefs and eating habits—one paramount factor remains undisputed—that common bond between us is our origin. We are of Indian origin and regardless of which passports we hold, we are judged by the locals on the basis of our ability to speak with one voice.

In order to achieve oneness within the community, whether it be a community affair or launching a charity drive or representation on local or Indian Government institutions, several existing bodies of Indians in a country, should constitute an apex body or Council. The Council should consist of a strong working committee drawn from various constituent bodies. Experience at several places show that during its early years, the affairs of the Council or Apex body should be entrusted to a person who may have long association with various local bodies and has a record of service to the community.

I have supported the formation of apex bodies every where. I believe that such apex bodies will fill the vaccum which has existed for long time. It will unify the community and discourage opportunists from doing any damage.

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Viewpoint

K. N. Vaid

Giri proposes Asia Forum

President Giri's visit to Malaysia last month has been a very significant event. It was a booster to the already close and friendly relations between India and Malaysia and should go a long way in speeding up the growing bilateral trade relations between the two countries.

Malaysia and India have a history of social and cultural exchanges which extends over three thousand years. The Malaysian monarch. Tunku Abdul Halim Shah was stating a historic fact when he said that India is "almost a relation of Malaysia". This sentiment was expressed also by Mr. Nehru 20 years ago.

Even a more significant aspect of the visit was that President Giri explained clearly India's position on regional alignments. He also put across the proposal for Asia Forum where Asians could discuss Asian affairs without binding themselves to any rigid stand or commitments.

This was perhaps the first time that India clearly stated her position on the ASEAN. President Giri said, "we welcome the concept of South-east Asia as a zone of peace, freedom and neutrality contained in the Kualalumpur Declaration of November 1971". He gave full backing to the Malaysian proposal for the neutralization of South-east Asia and pledged India's readiness "to work side by side with Malaysia for progress and prosperity of our peoples and to contribute to the peace and stability of our region."

Referring to Asia, Giri said, "we notice that whether it is America, Europe or Africa, the neighbouring countries are coming closer and forging new links. It is our earnest hope that the countries in Asia will not lag behind but proceed quickly towards close and effective cooperation on the basis of their ancient heritage and common aspirations for the future."

The Giri Proposal for Asia Forum envisages that leaders or representatives of Asian countries meet more frequently on some structured basis to discuss specific issues of mutual interest. Discussions need not conclude in agreements or communiques. The fact that Asian nations meet for discussions would lead to a better appreciation of one another's positions on various issues, reduce misunderstandings and in the long run pave way for meaningful relations.

The Asia Forum may start as a discussion group, might lead to a consultative machinery and could eventually emerge as a strong Asian voice on world platform. "And this co-operation", said Mr. Giri, "could be on the firm foundation of equality, mutual respect for sovereignity, territorial integrity, and non interference in each other's internal affairs."

India China exchange smiles

During last few weeks, both India and China have made cautious moves to normalize relations which have been strained for nearly a decade now. The Chinese Premier is on record that Peking will welcome the re-appointment of an Indian ambassador and would like to send one to New Delhi provided India moved first because India was the first to withdraw her ambassador from Peking. New Delhi reaction to this view has not been given officially but there seems to be no particular objection to the preposition. The Chinese Military Attache at Delhi has accepted the post of the doyen there —a position which is bound to bring him in more frequent contact with Indian authorities. This acceptance could not be without permission from Peking. China has officially invited an Indian accupuncturist doctor to visit Peking. The Indian Foreign Minister recently said at Tokyo that there will be significant developments in India-China relations before the year is out. Political observers and "special reports" from New Delhi are saying that the search is on in India for a suitable man for the Peking posting.

We have always held the view and have often stated in these Columns that there can be no lasting peace in Asia without friendship and understanding between the two Asian giants. India and China have a common destiny and geography, history, culture, traditions, trade and international situation demands that the two countries work together. Let us hope that cautious smiles gradually turn into warm handshakes, and Hindi-Chini Bhai concept becomes as popular as it was 15 years ago.

What is in a name

George performs Shiva Puja every morning before going to work and has the idol god installed in his home. Freddy goes to the Hindu temple every evening for Arti. Ram Asre is a devout muslim and says his Namaz five times a day. Tajindin is a conservative Hindu and is a popular character actor for the annual performance of Ramlila. Kernail Singh is a county, priest and is thought highly by his christian congregation. Confusing—isn't it? But all of them are real persons whom I have known for some years. They are all Overseas Indians.

Over 20 years ago when I was a junior student I met a Khadi clad gentleman on a railway train who introduced himself as Thakur Sevak Din Singh. The name confused me. On further enquiry, the gentleman explained that the name was specially adopted by him. Thakur indicated that he was born to a high caste Hindu family. Sevak conveyed his occupation—as servant of people. Din Singh signified that he believed in religious harmony. The explanation was logical but I kept wondering for years as to why a person should wear his beliefs as an arm-band.

Later when I read Sociology, I learnt that names of most Indians are like arm bands. Often you can

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guess the religion, caste, area of origin in India, language group, and sometimes even the village of an Indian from his name.

Still later, when I visited different parts of the world and met various groups of the Overseas Indian, my Sociology became topsy-turvy. It was no longer possible to guess that George was a Hindu, Singh was a Methodist Christian, Ram Asre was a Muslim and Tajindin was a Brahamin.

Geneology of names of Overseas Indians has undergone change. Living as a minority group, and pressed by needs of trade, acceptance in neighbourhood, search of friends in a far away place where life could be very lonely or due to fashion and convenience, Overseas Indians took up new names and also gave local names to their children. But the Indian cultural and social traditions were not given up. So George keeps fast on Monday. Singh comes back to a curry lunch after the sermon and tells his children a story about Pandavas.

Modifying given names, or giving local names to children is a very personal decision. As a student abroad, I met with this difficult problem. My Europeans friends could pronounce neither my surname as it should be, nor my first name which is Kanwal. Their difficulty was genuine. But I had worked very hard to learn to pronounce their names and I thought it fair that they should work equally hard to learn to pronounce my name. One evening, the attractive girl with whom I was dining suggested that she would call me Kenny. She thought the new name was good and conveyed affection but I was offended. I called for my bill, paid off and walked away. The poor girl can understand now why I walked out on her if she happens to read this article. One of my friends abroad who is now a member of the Planning Commission in India was Chakravarty. The Dutch professor always pronounced it Shakarpare. Whenever his name was called in the Dutch fashion, my friend would just sit quiet as if nothing concerning him had happened. It was quite a joke.

Thais and Chinese like to convert all foreign names into local names. Indians in Thailand and Chinese countries often carry two names, one Indian and another Chinese. And this could be disastrous. One evening I went to a Chinese dinner given by a few Chinese friends in honour of a visiting Overseas Indian. To please the hosts and for local convenience, the visitor had got his visiting card printed on both sides, Indian name in English on one side and the Chinese name on the reverse. He took out his card and very ceremoniously exchanged it with the Chinese sitting next to him. The Chinese read the card, put his hand on his lips to hide a smile, and passed on the card to the next man. The card went around in full circle and at every stop there was a concealed smile. I pocketed the card and the following morning asked my Chinese secretary to decipher it. It turned out that someone had done a figurative though correct translation and the name meant 'Fat dirty pig'.

And of course, Indonesians have beautiful names in pure Sanskrit though most of them are muslims. Sukarno is su-kar-no, one who does good deeds. Somrasi—a girl heady as wine—is a common Indonesian name, of pure Samskrit origin.

So, what is in a name!

* * *

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Mohan, son of Mrs. Jankibai T. Chugani was engaged to Kanta, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lalchand Daswani of Moonlight Restaurant. Seen L to R are: Mrs. Rani Hiranand, Mrs. J. T. Chugani, Kanta and Mohan, Mr. and Mrs. Lalchand Daswani.

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Industrial Investment Policy

by K. A. Gidwani

In order to encourage potential investors, individuals, firms and companies, the Government of India have framed detailed and clear cut policies on foreign collaborations, taxation, foreign finance, import of raw materials, industrial finance and related matters. The purpose of these policies is to establish clear cut guidelines for industrialists, entrepreneurs and investors who wish to start, expand or diversify business in India. Given below is a brief summary of selected aspects of these policies. It should be obvious that readers will have to go through the resources material for detailed information.

Foreign Collaboration

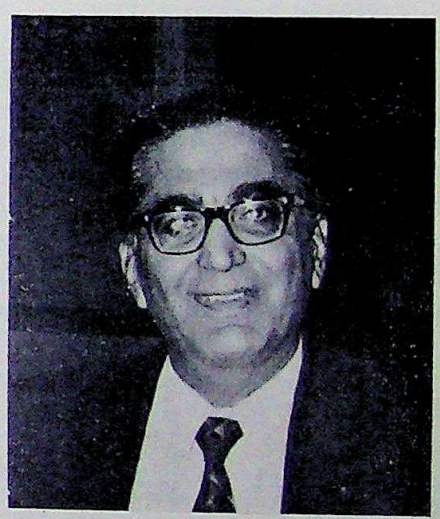
The Government policy seeks to regulate foreign collaborations in the areas of equity participation, duration of collaboration agreement, export oriented industries, royalty, etc.

Equity participation:—The Government does not favour majority foreign equity participation in Indian industries. The participation is limited to 40%, barring exceptional cases when due to technological need, or the need for foreign exchange, or when it is for export oriented industries, they may be allowed a majority equity participation.

Royalty:—Royalty is payable to a maximum of 5 per cent. Normally, no minimum royalty is guaranteed. No royalty is paid in case of wholly owned Indian subsidiary company, in collaboration with a foreign parent company.

Duration of collaboration agreement:—In case of collaboration, there is a specified time schedule for the agreement. It is for usually 5 years from the date of production. It can be extended in case of a delayed production start. Renewal of agreement is permitted on merits of the case.

Export oriented industries: — are preferred, the stress being on import substitution, as well as export market, bringing in foreign exchange. Hence the policy is to agree to foreign collaboration in low priority, non essential industries if collaborator agrees to set aside major share of production for export purposes. This is agreed to, if the agreement does not contain any inhibitive clauses regarding export of production, except to those countries where the collaborator has arrangement for their manufacture. Units already in existence have also been given premission to utilise excess capacity if export performance is good.



The Author

The policy requires that there should be no prohibitive clauses regarding sub-licensing of know-how to other Indian companies according to the terms.

Taxation

The main aspects of Indian taxation policy are the income, wealth and gift taxes which are of particular interest to foreign investors.

Income Tax

Income tax is chargeable on the annual income of every person, and a corporate body (called a company) is liable to tax under the provisions of the Income Tax Act of 1961. The rates of tax are prescribed by an Act of the Parliament every year by separate legislation called the Finance Act. Besides the income tax, companies earning incomes exceeding specified limits are also liable to surtax under the Companies (Profits) Surtax Act, 1964.

Wealth Tax

In India, wealth tax is levied on the value of net wealth of individuals, as on the valuation date which is generally the last date of the accounting year. Net wealth is the aggregate value of all assets owned by the tax payer less debts owned by him. The value of an asset is to be taken at the estimated price it would fetch if sold in the open market on the valuation date. Persons of foreign nationality are taxed only on the net wealth located in India, whatever their residential status be. 'Non-resident' foreigners pay tax only at half the rates.

Besides the wealth tax payable at the rates set, individuals are required to pay additional wealth tax on immovable property, other than business premises.

Mr K. A. Gidwani is Project and Personnel Planning Manager of the Delhi Cloth and General Mills, Delhi, India.

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Gift Tax

The tax liability of an individual donor depends on his residence and on citizenship. Indian citizens who are non-resident or who are not ordinarily resident, are taxed on gifts of real or movable property situated in India only. Non Indian citizens, regardless of residence are taxed on gifts of real or movable property situated in India only.

Estate Duty

In India estate duty is payable on the principal value of all property, whether settled or not, which passes on the death of a person. The principal value of the estate of the deceased is the estimated price which could be realised in the open market at the time of his death.

Tax Incentives

The Indian taxation laws offer a wide range of tax incentives to stimulate savings and investment. The various incentives which are of special interest to foreign investors are:

Incentives for savings and investment:—

(a) Tax holiday for new industrial undertakings and dividends on shares thereof.

(b) Special deduction of 5% of profits in case of domestic companies engaged in priority industries (Applicable only upto 1972-73).

(c) Depreciation allowances.

(d) Development rebate.

(e) Amortisation of the cost of patent rights and copyrights.

(f) Deduction of expenditure on scientific research.

(g) Export markets development allowance.

(h) Agricultural development allowance.

(i) Concessional treatment of inter-corporate dividends.

(j) Exemption of first Rs. 3000 of divided income.

(k) Five-year wealth tax holiday for equity shares in new industrial companies.

(l) Wealth tax exemption for share holdings in Indian companies and other investments upto Rs. 1,50,000.

(m) Amortisation of preliminary expenses, i.e. expenses on market and other surveys and on feasibility project reports, development of specified minerals.

(n) Tax credit certificates for shifting of an industrial undertaking from urban area.

Incentives for foreign non-resident tax payers:

a. Concessional tax on royalties and technical service fees received by a foreign company.

b. Exemption from surtax in the case of foreign companies in respect of income from royalties, interest and technical service fees.

c. Tax exemptions to foreign technicians

d. Tax free interest on loans

e. Exemptions of interest on deposit in non-resident account in India.

f. Concession to foreigners regarding capital gains tax, in certain cases

g. Deductions of educational expenses of children of foreigners

h. Exemption of leave passages

i. Exemption to foreign employees temporarily in India serving a foreign enterprise

j. Exemption from income tax remittances to India.

Other Incentives:

a. Deduction of expenditure incurred by companies for promoting family planning amongst employees.

b. Exemption of remuneration of Indians from foreign educational institutions.

c. Exemption of 40% of income from provision of technical know-how or technical services.

d. Special deduction for Indian companies and resident tax payers on income from provision of technical know-how and technical service to foreign enterprise.

e. Tax exemption for the book publishing industry.

Import Licensing and Foreign Exchange

— The conditions governing Import Licences for machinery and equipment for setting up new undertakings, etc.

— Long term foreign investment in the capital of the project by non-Indian nationals, companies incorporated abroad or by non-resident Indians.

— Foreign exchange loans from public financial institutions like the ICICI, IFCI, and international financial institutions such as the International Financial Corporation, the Commonwealth Development Finance Co., U.S. Export Import Branch, etc.

— Imports financed by National Small Industries Corporation in their hire-purchase schemes, etc.

— Import of plant and machinery against foreign equity participation to the extent of the amount of foreign exchange made available by the foreign investors.

— Import licence against supplier's credit—if the payments are made over a long period.

— Import licences are considered according to the priority order of the type of industry for which it is required.

Import of raw materials

The following categories are considered for priority allocation of raw material—Core Industries, Key Industries listed for purposes of capital gods, Priority industries listed for purposes of capital goods.

The Government also gives special consideration to export oriented industries.

Import of capital goods is allowed subject to an undertaking to export. There are different procedures for priority and non-priority industries.

Under the import policy there are certain items which are banned. However, some of these cases are considered on merits.

The Government has given clear cut instructions regarding procedures and practices of bringing these policies into operation.

A foreign investor has to first of all, send his investment proposals to the Foreign Investment Board for approval. He can get it done by his counterpart in India as well.

After approval, comes the application for licences or registrations. Licensing is involved in certain types of industries, and all industries exempted from licensing have to have themselves registered.

On the basis of these applications a letter of intent is issued to the applicant. A letter of intent is a commitment on the part of the government that licences will be issued after the applicant fulfils the conditions stipulated in the letter of intent. The conditions normally are the finalisation of terms of foreign collaboration, arrangement for import of capital goods, issue of capital, and approval of phased manufacturing programme.

If it is a foreigner who is applying

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1 bicycle is sold every 2 minutes in Gujarat— yet there's not a single bicycle manufacturing plant in the State.

Ready opportunities for many such industries await you with a promise of all types of assistance to produce and sell to a ready local market.

181 town groups in Gujarat contain a high density of urban population—26%. This means a lot of purchasing power waiting for an outlet. But a number of things consumed by these great spenders are not even manufactured locally. This leaves you with hundreds of opportunities to start a variety of industries that are not existing. But the demand is. And keeps on rising steadily every year. Now correlate the promise of starting an industry with the industrial situation in Gujarat. And you have arrived! Gujarat gives you a really marvellous industrial climate: peaceful and responsive labour; a choice of 63 developed GIDC industrial estates. Helpful financial, technical and managerial assistance from GIIC, GSFC and GSIC.

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Directorate of Industries
'C' Block,
Multi-storeyed Building
Lal Darwaja, Ahmedabad

GIDC
Gujarat Industrial Development Corporation
Industrial land and infrastructure

GIIC
Gujarat Industrial Investment Corporation Ltd.
Finance above Rs. 30 lakhs

GSFC
Gujarat State Financial Corporation
Loans upto Rs. 30 lakhs

GSIC
Gujarat Small Industries Corporation Ltd.
Consultancy to Industries

Please send me an Information Form

Name .....

Address .....

.....

Nature of industry proposed/existing

.....

I have seen your advertisement in

.....

(Name of publication) (Date)

Shilpi 2-GC-27/72

"The wheels that gear industrial growth in Gujarat"

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for the letter of intent, he will have to undertake to establish an Indian company to set up the proposed undertaking.

After the conditions in the letter of intent are fulfilled, the concerned party again applies for Industrial Licence, under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951.

Industrial Finance

Over the last 25 years of Independence, India has built up a fairly comprehensive structure for providing finances to the industry.

In order to meet long term financial requirements, the Government of India has set up a number of specialised Institutions. It started with the establishment of the Industrial Finance Corporation of India in 1948, and after that a net-work of term-lending Institutions like the ICICI, State Financial Corporation, IDBI, etc. cropped up.

The role that these financial institutions have been playing in the assistance of private sector is important. The quantum of assistance provided by these various financing institutions represented about 10 per cent of the total private sector, investment during the 2nd Plan, and rose to 20 per cent in the Third Plan.

At present, the various financial institutions offering such services are:

The industrial Development Bank of India: (the apex organisation, which not only deals with financing but also acts as co-ordinator for all other Institutions dealing with the grant of long and medium loans).

Industrial Finance Corporation: makes medium and long term credits readily available to industrial concerns in India, particularly where normal banking accommodation is inappropriate or recourse to capital issue methods is impracticle. It helps both public and private sectors.

Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India: the scope of its functions includes providing finance managerial and technical assistance to enterprises. This is an important source of foreign currency loan to the private sector.

It is of significant import that an applicant for loan to the ICICI may be Indian or foreign, his plans may provide for investment in any part of India, he may require assistance in any form, but he must be prepared to make a substantial contribution to the resources required for his proposal. The enterprise must have undertaken to obtain experienced management and expert technical personnel. All limited companies in the private sector are eligible for industrial finance from any or all of the following financial institutions.

State Finance Corporations: These render assistance to medium and small scale industries.

Unit Trust of India: This provides for equity investments to savers, particularly belonging to small and medium income groups. It channelises these savings into productive investments by subscribing to, and underwriting the shares and debentures of industrial undertakings.

Life Insurance Corporation: This plays an important role in the capital market of the country, and is at present the largest institutional investor. It cannot invest in private limited companies. In the public sector and public limited companies, it can invest only in securities, bonds, debentures, or shares.

Export Credit and Guarantee Corporation Ltd: This is a specialised Institution established to encourage, facilitate and develop India's export trade. It provides for tapping of foreign markets, gives insurance policies etc.

National Small Scale Industries Corporation: This institution seeks to aid, counsel, assist, finance, protect and promote the interests of small industries in the country. It offers a wide range of services, like industrial finance, supply of machines on easy hire purchase terms, training of skilled personnel through its training centres and marketing.

Industrial Reconstruction Corporation of India: This acts as a booster to all slumping industries. It provides financial assistance, which is normally not available from other channels; technical assistance and guidance; managerial assistance, directly and through aid in selection; suggestions for improvements based on research; generally to suggest, arrange, procure or provide such expendients as are incidental or conducive to the overall reconstruction and viability of the unit concerned.

MARRIAGE

Ishwar son of Mr. and Mrs. Mulchand Anandani was married to Devi daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jeramdas Laungani recently.

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TO GIVE YOU

BEST PRICE GOOD PRODUCT SURE DELIVERY

STYLE INTERNATIONAL

EXPORTERS FROM INDIA

AGENTS FOR OVERSEAS BUYERS

REPS OF INDIAN MANUFACTURERS

COMMENCING BUSINESS JULY 1973

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Kalbadevi, Bombay-2, India.

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Export Promotion Organisations in India

With a view to fostering better trade relations with different countries of the world, the Government of India with the co-operation of industry and trade within the country, has set up a number of bodies and organisations solely devoted to establishing and fostering trade contacts in different regions of the world. Most of these organisations spare no efforts to ensure the supply to foreign markets, products of good quality at fair and competitive prices, and to the establishment of friendly and permanent business relations between India and the foreign markets to the advantage of both.

The following are some of the institutions which assist the Indian exporters, as also the overseas importers:

FIEO

Federation of Indian Export Organisations
Allahabad Bank Building (2nd Floor),
17, Parliament Street, New Delhi-1.

FIEO is an apex body set up to serve as a common forum for exporting interests in India and to render common services in respect of the activities of its constituent members, who include various Export Promotion Councils, Commodity Boards and individual exporters in the country. The Federation engages itself with the consideration and resolving of problems of a general nature that the export trade within the country has to confront from day to day. It undertakes export-oriented publications and embarks on other publicity projects and trade development ventures, cutting across a wide gamut of products and commodities covered by several Councils at a time. Also commodities or products not normally under the purview of an Export Promotion Council are covered by the Federation. It invites leading business personalities and trade delegations from overseas and takes them round the country with the idea of creating a visual impact about India's industrial progress and export potentials. Similarly the Federation also sponsors high-level multi-commodity trade delegations to visit specific regions of the world. The Federation organises meetings between the Industry and Trade on one hand and concerned Government officials on the other to examine problems facing the export trade within the country. Another activity of the Federation is to convene conferences wherein heads of Indian Missions abroad get an opportunity to discuss with members of the Industry and Trade problems connected with export of Indian commodities to the regions of their accredition. The Federation in general engages in activities of such a nature which are mainly multi-commodity in approach and have a general impact on the export trade in the country.

Export Promotion Councils

These organisations have been set up by the Government, Industry and Trade in India to devote particular attention to commodities dealt with by the respective councils. Export Promotion Councils examine the technical nature of the various aspects of exports of the products under their purview, and their study includes price structure, quality, packaging, etc. The following Export Promotion Councils are functioning at present:—

1. **The Basic Chemicals, Pharmaceuticals and Soaps Export Promotion Council,** *Jhansi Castle (4th Floor), 7, Cooperage Road, Bombay-1.*

2. **The Cashew Export Promotion Council,** *Mahatma Gandhi Road, Ernakulam South,*

3. **The Chemicals and Allied Products Promotion Council,**

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Invest in India

WHERE

YOUR DOLLAR LASTS LONGER AND GROWS FASTER

FOR NEW INDUSTRIES

— Tax Holiday for 5 years

— High depreciation rate & development rebate

— Financial loans upto 90 percent of capital

— Duty free imports for export production

— Free import entitlement upto 33 percent of value added through exports

— No red tape—package deal for all government clearance in guaranteed time

— Developed land and infra-structure given on easy terms

— Abundance of skilled and managerial manpower

— Protection against competition & price cutting by large and foreign companies

— Free Research & Development Services

— Overseas Indians allowed restriction free import of machinery & components for over half million rupees.

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Cochin-16.
14/1-B, Ezra Street, 2nd Floor, Calcutta-1.

4. **The Cotton Textiles Export Promotion Council,**
5th Floor, 9-Mathew Road, Charni Road, Bombay-4.

5. **The Engineering Export Promotion Council,**
14/1-B, Ezra Street, 3rd Floor, Calcutta-1.

6. **The Export Promotion Council for Finished Leather and Leather Manufacturers,**
15/46, Civil Lines, P. O. Box No. 198, Kanpur.

7. **The Gem and Jewellery Export Promotion Council,**
Commerce Centre, 4th Floor, Tardeo, Bombay-34.

8. **The Handloom Export Promotion Council,**
123, Mount Road, Madras-6.

9. **The Leather Export Promotion Council,**
Marble Hall, 3/38, Vepery High Road, Madras-3.

10. **The Marine Products Export Promotion Council,**
World Trade Centre, Mahatma Gandhi Road, Ernakulam South, Cochin-16.

11. **The Plastics & Linoleums Export Promotion Council,**
Nyloc House, 4th Floor, 254-D2, Dr. Annie Besant Road, Prabhadevi Road, Bombay-25.

12. **The Processed Foods Export Promotion Council,**
119, Jorbagh, New Delhi-3.

13. **The Shellac Export Promotion Council,**
14/1-B, Ezra Street, Calcutta-1.

14. **The Silk & Rayon Textiles Export Promotion Council,**
Resham Bhavan, 78, Veer Nariman Road, Bombay-1.

15. **The Spices Export Promotion Council,**
World Trade Centre, Mahatma Gandhi Road, Ernakulam South, Cochin-16.

16. **The Sports Goods Export Promotion Council,**
1-E/6, Jhandewalan Extension, New Delhi-55.

17. **The Tobacco Export Promotion Council,**
123, Mount Road, Madras-6.

18. **The Wool and Woollens Export Promotion Council,**
'Manohar', 27, New Marine Lines, Bombay-1.

Many of these councils have regional offices all over India and some have established offices abroad.

COMMODITY BOARDS

Commodity Boards have been set up with a view to helping organisations engaged in the trade of India's traditional export items. These Commodity Boards advise the Government on Policy matters, such as fixing quota for exports, signing trade agreements with foreign countries etc. apart from undertaking promotional activities, such as participation in exhibitions and trade fairs. The following are the Commodity Boards at present:

1. **The All-India Handicrafts Boards,**
West Block No. 7, R. K. Puram, New Delhi-22.

2. **The All-India Handloom Board,**
New C.G.O. Building, 48, New Marine Lines, P.B. No. 10004, Bombay-1.

3. **The Cardamom Board,**
Directorate of Cardamom Development and Marketing, Mareena Buildings, P.B. No. 507, M.G. Road, Ernakulam-6.

4. **The Central Silk Board,**
'Meghdoot' 95-B, Marine Drive, Bombay-2.

5. **The Coffee Board,**
No. 1, Vidhana Veedhi, P.B. No. 359, Bangalore-1.

6. **The Coir Board,**
P.B. No. 1752, Ernakulam (Kerala).

7. **The Rubber Board,**
Kottayam (Kerala).

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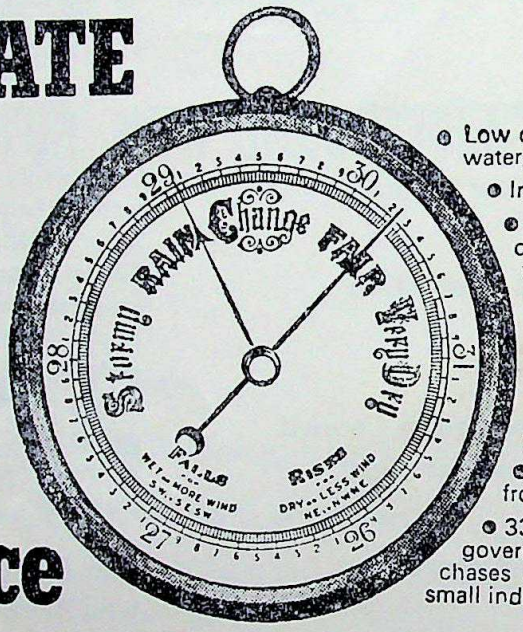
MYSORE HAS THE PERFECT INDUSTRIAL CLIMATE



- Low cost power, water, labour.
- Industrial sites.
- Efficient network of railways, highways, telecommunications, airports and seaports.
- Sales tax refund on capital equipment, building and raw materials for 5 years.
- Initial exemption from electricity tax.
- 33 1/3 % of all government purchases reserved for small industries.

and finance from MSFC keeps it equable

Industrial finance from the Mysore State Financial Corporation is available to industries engaged in • the manufacture, processing and preservation of goods • the hotel, cold storage and transport business • the generation or distribution of electricity • the development of a contiguous area of land as an Industrial Estate.

MSFC advances 75% of the project cost to small industries and up to 50% to others (relaxable up to 10% in special cases). In March 1972, MSFC's total investment in some 1000 industries located throughout the State was well over Rs. 15 crores. Stimulating greater industrial development and production, MSFC's integrated finance program is specially mapped out for new and expanding industries; in collaboration with the **Mysore Small Industries Corporation** and the **Small Industries Service Institute** which offer facilities like locating sites and buildings, obtaining licences and project evaluation for your industry.

For further details contact :

Mysore State Financial Corporation

1/1, 2nd Main Road, Malleswaram, Bangalore-3. Phone: 71169

ADP./MSFC-8

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8. **The Tea Board,**
14, Brabourne Road, P.B. No. 2172, Calcutta-1.

OTHER ORGANISATIONS:

Indian Jute Mills Association

Royal Exchange, No. 6, Netaji Subhas Road, Calcutta-1.

This Association is assisted by the Government of India in its export promotional efforts. It actively assists the jute industry in its efforts at quality control and modernisation.

The Indian Sugar Export Corporation Ltd.

28, Ring Road, Lajpat Nagar IV, New Delhi-24.

This Corporation canalises exports of sugar and for this purpose conducts itself as if it were an export promotion council.

Indian Institute of Foreign Trade

H-24, Green Park Extension, New Delhi-16.

This institution has been set up by the Government with the co-operation of the trade, industry, universities, educational and research institutions in India. One of the principal functions of this institute is to conduct market surveys abroad, apart from training personnel in techniques of international marketing and conducting foreign language courses.

Export Credit and Guarantee Corporation

4, Rampart Row, Bombay-1.

This Corporation undertakes insurance of an exporter's credit risks, both commercial and political, and also helps the exporter to get adequate credit facilities to expand his business.

Export Inspection Council

14/1-B, Ezra Street, World Trade Centre, Calcutta-1.

The Industry and Trade in India is fully conscious about the need to maintain optimum quality standards, particularly in the case of goods meant for export. The Government of India has enacted the Quality Control and Pre-shipment Inspection Act, and the Export Inspection Council has been specially set up to operate this act. Most of India's export commodities have already been brought within the purview of this Act, and the Council provides organisational facilities for compulsory quality control and pre-shipment inspection activities.

Indian Council of Trade Fairs and Exhibitions

Jhansi Castle, Cooperage Road, Bombay-1.

This Council is sponsered by the Government of India functioning in close collaboration with the Directorate of Exhibitions in the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Supply. The objectives of the Council include promotion and organisation of participation in trade fairs and exhibitions both in India and abroad, establishment of trade centres, and development of other programmes of visual publicity for export promotion.

Handicrafts & Handloom Export Corporation of India Ltd.

'Lok Kalyan Bhavan', 11-A, Rouse Avenue Lane, New Delhi-1.

Apart from its various export promotional activities, the Corporation undertakes direct exports to supplement private voluntary effort with the main object of exploring new markets and introducing new items in traditional markets. The Corporation arranges for general publicity for handicrafts and handlooms. The Corporation has also opened several offices abroad.

Indian Motion Pictures Export Corporation Ltd.

Shiv Sagar Estate, 'D' Block, 1st Floor, Dr. Annie Besant Road, Worli, Bombay-18.

This Corporation functions like an Export Promotion Council in respect of export of films from India. In addition, it purchases, markets, exports and exhibits Indian films abroad.

Indian Institute of Packaging

254-C, Dr. Annie Besant Road, Prabhadevi, Bombay-25.

This institute functions as a research and training centre, the main objective being to study the problems associated with packaging in India.

Indian Standards Institution

9, Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, New Delhi.

This institution functions as a very effective agency to examine products manufactured within the country and to establish standards for their quality. The ISI also provides means to standardise even manufacturing activities like packaging etc. The ISI is now a mark well known the world over, as a symbol of quality, like the B.S.S. It has become the guarantee of quality goods from India.

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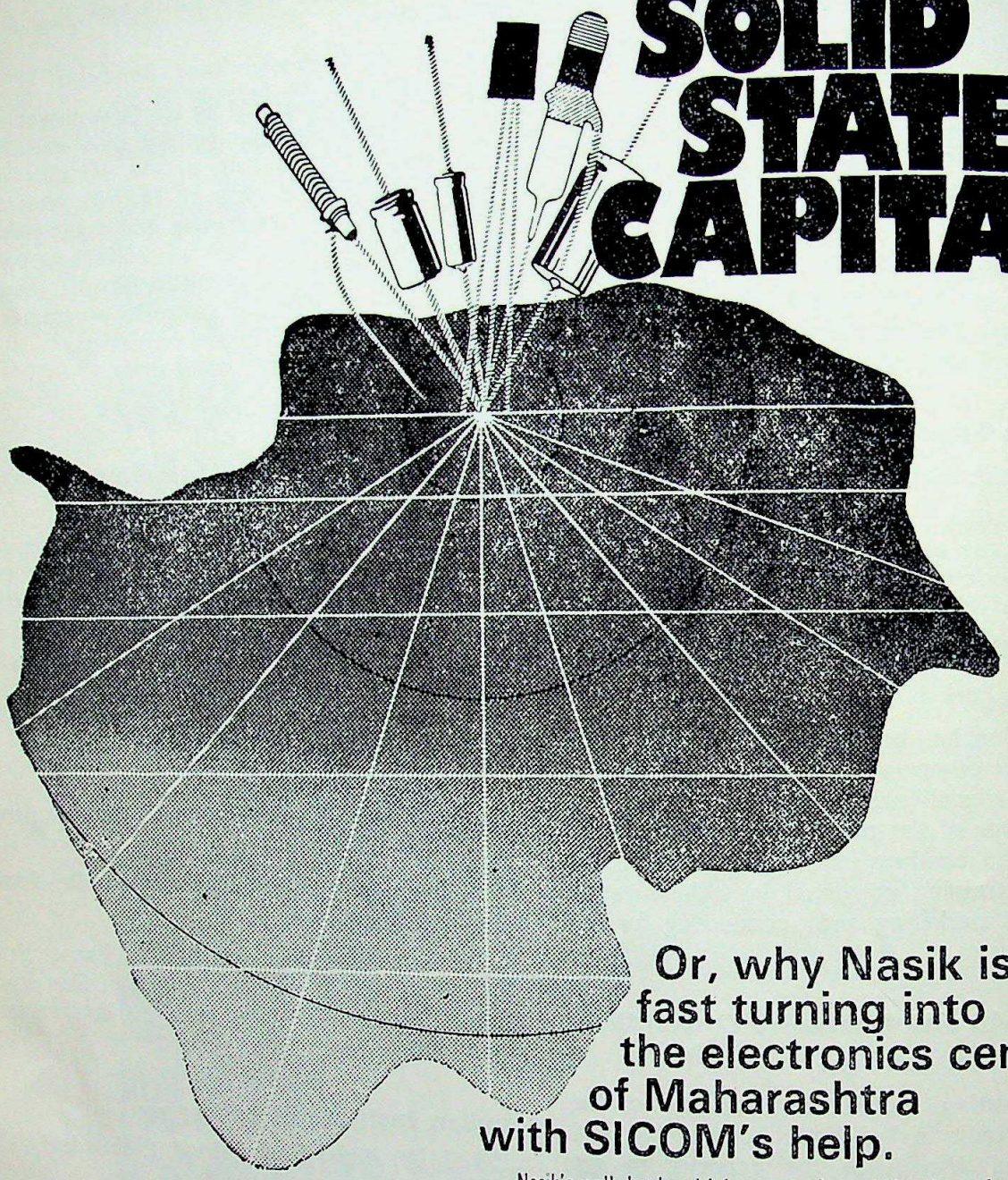
SOLID STATE CAPITAL



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To learn more about Nasik's electronics possibilities, please write for your free copy of 'Electronics Industry Discovers Nasik' to the Senior Development Officer (BSD).

SICOM's Project Profiles on 4 promising growth sectors in this industry, viz., electro-medical instruments, styroflex capacitors, potentiometers and basic materials for components, are also available by VPP for Rs. 10/-.

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Indian Council of Arbitration

Federation House, Tansen Marg, New Delhi.

This Council has been specifically set up to enable expeditious and effective examination of complaints from traders, both from India and abroad, regarding non-fulfilment of export contracts or non-compliance with arbitration awards.

State Trading Corporation of India Ltd.

Chandralok Building, 36, Janpath, New Delhi-1.

The objects of the Corporation are to undertake trading in certain commodities which are entrusted to it by the Government and to explore new export markets for them. It trades mainly with State Trading Countries.

Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation of India Limited

Manakalaya, 5th Floor, Bahadurshah Zafar Marg, New Delhi-1.

This was formed out of the State Trading Corporation of India consequent on the decision to set up a new Corporation to deal exclusively in minerals and metals trade.

Export Houses

Any limited company consisting of persons with specific standing in business may apply for recognition as an Export House if it has an export turnover in a wide range of commodities and has a broad programme of exports. These Export Houses are entitled to get various forms of assistance from the Government.

Trade Development Authority

This body has been set up by the Government of India to render total package services to exporters in their export programmes—in a coordinated and integrated manner—aimed at optimising the total export efforts of such exporting units.

ADVISORY BODIES

(i) Board of Trade

The Board consist of economists, non-officials representing trade interests and senior officers of Government concerned with various economic departments; the chairman is the Minister of Foreign Trade. The Board is advisory in nature; it advises the Government on all important matters connected with internal and international economic, commercial and industrial developments having a bearing on the development of export trade.

(ii) Export-Import Advisory Council

With a view to providing a forum for discussing the adequacy and effectiveness of the import control and export promotion measures taken by the Government, this central organisation has been set up. Presided over by the Minister of Foreign Trade, this body reviews interalia the general export policy of the Government every six months.

(iii) Regional Port Advisory Committees

In order to make a detailed study of the export possibilities of the commodities exported from different regions and to advise Government in regard to specific problems of exports in these regions, Port Export Promotion Advisory Committees have been set up—one each at Bombay, Calcutta, Cochin, Madras and Delhi. These Committees divide themselves into small groups for item-wise studies.

(iv) Honorary Export Promotion Advisers

The Regional Committees are presided over by a prominent businessman of high standing who has been appointed as an Adviser. In this manner, closer liaison is sought to be maintained between the business community and Government and specific difficulties of individual exporters are resolved speedily. These advisers keep themselves abreast of export problems in their regions by holding periodic meetings and discussions with businessmen and officials.

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE

This Ministry is the primary agency responsible for evolving and directing export promotion policies. The work of the Ministry as it relates to exports may be broadly divided into three sections:

(a) Territorial:

Dealing with problems of trade with different countries and areas;

(b) Commodities:

Relating to a study (by the Commodity sections and offices with the assistance of specialised agencies) of various commodities, and

(c) General:

Dealing with question of policy of a general nature, such as export control, export promotion in general commercial

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HIND Corporation

Watch Manufacturers, Exporters & Importers

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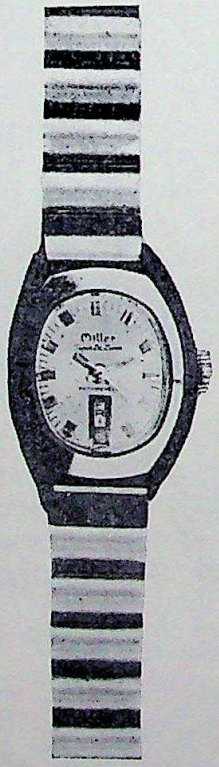
Hong Kong.

Telephone: 5-432376-9

Cable: **"HINDCORP"** Factory Reg. No. C. O. 8456

Watch Ref.1017
Strap Ref.P406



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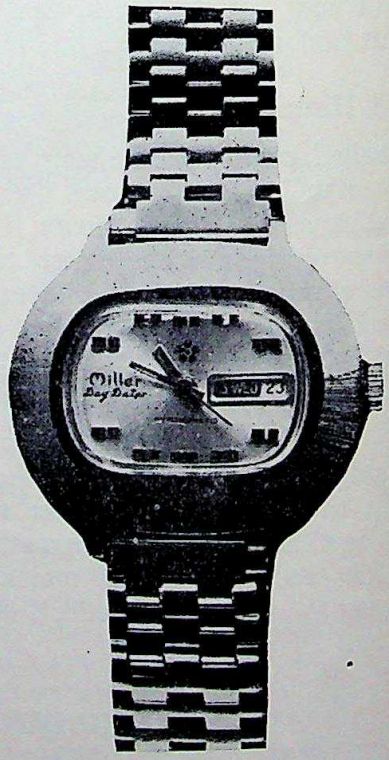

Watch Ref.1212
Strap Ref.M182

OWNERS OF BRAND: **RAMBA, HINA, JOYAS, PREFECT, REGENT, ENFIELD.**

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services, quality control, opening foreign offices, etc.

Separate Directorates within the Ministry look after special aspects concerning export trade. All these directorates, unless otherwise mentioned, are located at Udyog Bhavan, New Delhi. Their functions are detailed below:

Department of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics

1, Council House Street, Calcutta.

The functions of the Department of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics comprise:

(i) Commercial intelligence; and

(ii) Collection, compilation and publication of the statistics of trade, tariff and shipping.

The work of the Department may be broadly divided into the following principal items:

(a) Collection and supply of commercial information required by Government and trade;

(b) Maintenance of registers of Indian and foreign firms;

(c) Publication of the "Directory of Exporters of Indian Produce and Manufactures";

(d) Publication of the weekly "Indian Trade Journal";

(e) Publication of the periodical reports received from India Government Trade Representatives stationed in foreign countries in regard to economic conditions in those countries;

(f) Mediation in commercial disputes between India and foreign firms with a view to bringing about amicable settlement;

(g) Trade introductions;

(h) Maintenance of Commercial Library in Calcutta for the use of the public.

Development Councils

In respect of some of the Industries set up in accordance with the provisions of the Industry (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951, Development Councils have been constituted in consultation with the representatives of the industry and trade. Sub-Committees for Export Promotion have been set up by some of these Councils, to pay special attention to the problems of exports of the concerned products. Such sub-committees/Panels for Export Promotion have been set up by the following Development Councils:

1. Development Council for Heavy Electrical Industries.

2. Development Council for Leather and Leather Goods Industries.

3. Development Council for Pharmaceuticals and Drugs.

4. Development Council for Inorganic Chemical Industries

5. Development Council for Non-Ferrous Metals and Alloys.

6. Development Council for Light Electrical Industries.

7. Development Council for Art Silk.

Some of the commodities covered by these Export Promotion Committees are also covered by Export Promotion Councils. The demarcation of functions between the Committees and the Export Promotion Councils has been that while the former would attend more to the production aspects of export promotion the latter woud deal with merchandising. Even in matters such as quality control, the functions of the Committees would be to ensure production of quality goods while the Export Promotion Councils would be expected to attend to preshipment inspection etc.

State Liaison Officers

State Governments have appointed Liaison Officers incharge of export promotion work to develop export trade in goods produced in their States in consonance with the policies of the Central Government. Some of the States have separate Directorates for Export Promotion. The Directors of Industry in each State, including Small-Scale Industries, also take keen interest in export promotion activities, particularly in relation to the industries registered with them.

India Government Trade Representatives Abroad

In addition to the above institutions, the Government of India has appointed commercial counsellors and trade representatives in almost every country in the world to foster trade relations between India and the respective countries, and to serve as on-the-spot advisers to the businessmen, in the countries concerned, who desire to import goods from India. They also help in the settlement of trade disputes, if any.

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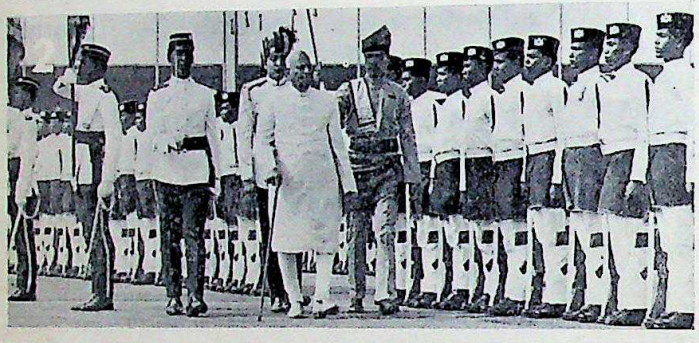
President Giri



President Giri receiving a gift from ...er Tun Ab...

1. On arrival, President Giri was received by His Majesty the Yang Dipertuan Agung, the paramount ruler of Malaysia & his consort.

2. The President inspecting a guard of honour.

3. Prime Minister Tun Abdul Razak & his wife called upon the President at Istana Tetamu Palace.

4. Mrs Giri visited a handicraft centre of the National Association of Women's Institute.

5. Speaking at a return banquet given by the President.

...apping a r...

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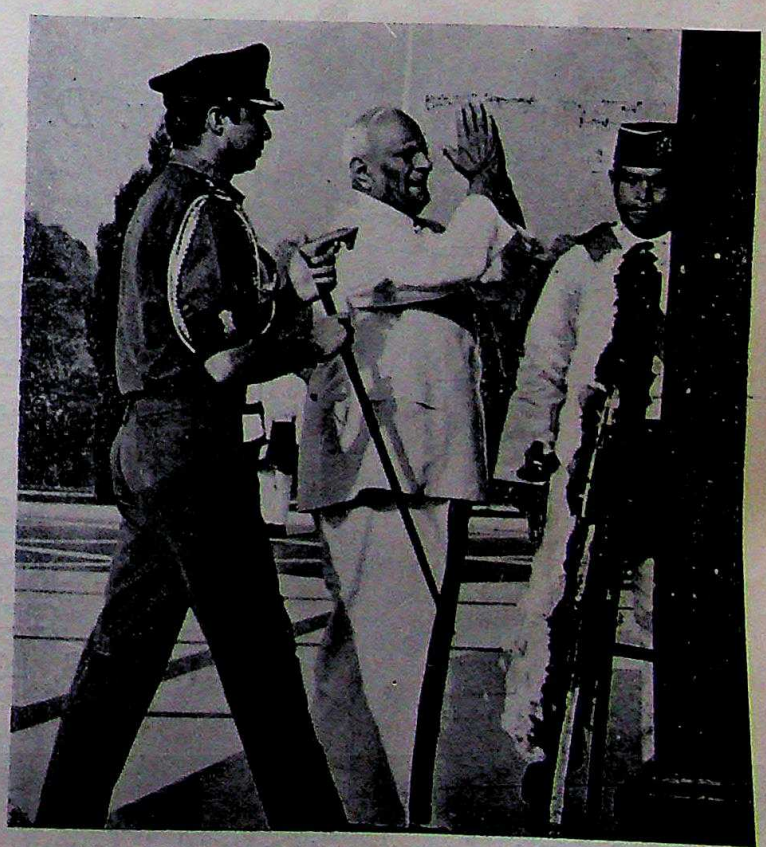
ent iri Visits Malaysia

a gift from ter Tun Abdul Razak.

The President at the State Banquet given by His Majesty.

Tapping a rubber tree on a plantation.



With happy memories and on cementing friendship, President Giri says good bye—to his hosts.

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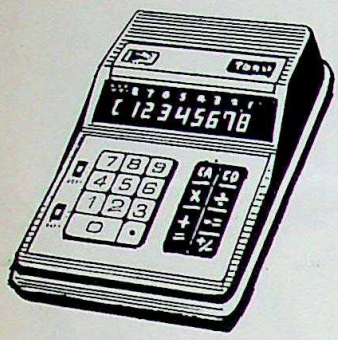

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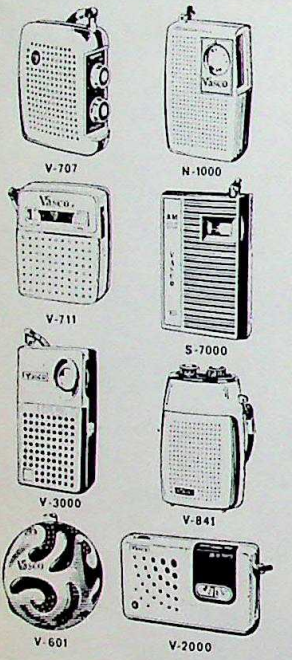

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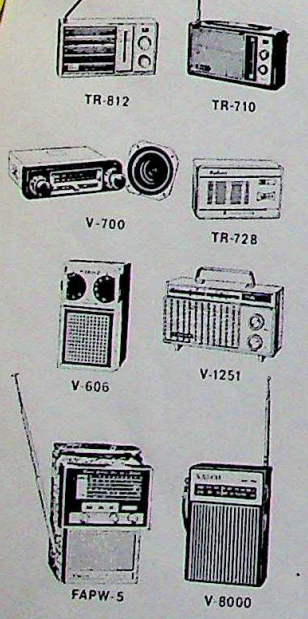
Importers of: Textiles Electronic components.



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A Lesson in Life

by Sunita Samtani

A beautiful face, but stricken with grief. A pair of lovely grey eyes, but blinded by tears. These belonged to Neela—twenty eight year old Neela—on whom the cruel hand of widowhood had fallen so hard just a month back, that she was a mere shadow of her former self. She now sat in the balcony, trying to while away her time by staring at people in the street. But it was no use. Her eyes just would not focus on anything. Instead, there was a faraway look in them as her mind went back —back into the past.

She had been the youngest of a family of three girls and two boys. The adored one of the family, she had been thoroughly spoilt. She recalled her sister Shiela's birthday, when she, Neela, was eight years' old. Sheila had got a bicycle on her birthday, and Neela had hollered for one. Her parents had promised her one for her ninth birthday, but she wouldn't have it. "I want one today, otherwise I'll kill myself." Her parents promptly bought her the bicycle that very day.

Funny, Neela mused now, how she always thought of killing herself whenever she couldn't get what she wanted. She was mature now, at twenty eight, but still, because she couldn't have Navin back, she wanted to commit suicide. Ah! Navin . . .

She remembered her first meeting with Navin. She had been sitting alone in a crowded restaurant, when a tall, well-built young man had asked if he could share her table. Neela had agreed, though haughtily. The young man had introduced himself as Navin Naik and had tried to get friendly with her. But she had been very uncommunicative. She had thought herself too good for the young man who, if not strictly handsome, was most charming. But Neela had not thought so then.

After that, Navin and Neela met at various social functions. Navin turned out to be the cousin of one of Neela's friends, hence their meetings were inevitable. However, the funny part was that Navin always seemed to be avoiding Neela.

The proud and beautiful Neela wasn't used to such behaviour. Men had always made fools of themselves over her. Who did Navin think he was, anyway? However, Navin gradually became irresistible to her. She was piqued at his lack of attention, but she also realized that for the first time in her life, she had fallen in love. But it was useless, she knew, for Fate seemed to be against her.

However, Fate took pity on her and decided that it was about time she and Navin were thrown together.

One night, when it was raining and Neela had been waiting for a taxi, a car stopped on the road and Navin strained his head out and asked, "Want a lift?". Swallowing her pride, Neela got into the car. Suddenly, she burst out, "Why have you been avoiding me, Navin Naik?" Navin stopped the car in the lonely lane through which they were going, and looked at her in surprise. "So! The proud little hussy has actually noticed that I have been avoiding her!" he exclaimed sarcastically. "I thought you'd be too busy with your other admirers to notice," he continued.

This was too much for Neela, who had spent many sleepless nights owing to her new found love for Navin. She began sobbing hysterically. The next moment, she was in Navin's arms, and he was telling her how much he loved her. "I loved you from the moment I set eyes on you, Neela, but as you were so haughty, I vowed I would not make a fool of myself. I've tried so hard to forget you, but believe me, it was easier not to breathe."

A month later, Neela became Mrs. Navin Naik. Navin was a pilot and he managed to get three weeks off for their honeymoon, which they spent in Nepal. After three ecstatic weeks, they had to come back to the daily drudgery of routine life. Navin went off on his flight and Neela spent the days dreaming about his return. Neela became used to being a green widow. She had always consoled herself with the thought, ' 'He'll be back!"

But, after four blissful years of married life, Navin had betrayed her. He hadn't come back. His plane had crashed and among those found dead, his name had headed the list. Neela cried as she had never cried before. When she was young and had cried for something, her family had always given her her heart's desire. But who could bring Navin back? Who was there to pat her head and say consolingly, "I'll get him for you, don't cry?" Who? Who? Who?

The thought that Navin would never come back, had wrought a metamorphosis in Neela. She became bitter towards life-towards God. Life, she felt, was—'A tale told by an idiot, full of sound and fury, signifying nothing.'

What was there to induce Neela to live? Her sisters and brothers were happily married, her parents were dead. Who needed her anyway? Many times she had thought of suicide, and today, sitting in the balcony, the urge to kill herself strengthened itself. She wiped the tears and stood up resolutely. Life hadn't been good to her, then why should she be good to Life? Why should she be faithful to life when it had betrayed her? Her eyes were clear now. She was happy now that she had made up her mind. She had a last look at the people on the street.

"Koyla! Koyla!" shouted a coal-seller. Neela looked at him. He was an old man-about fifty-five or sixty—so thin that his ribs made a bamboo frame in the middle. His face was wrinkled and worn, his hair a dirty white. He shook at every step he took, and yet he went on shouting, the two heavy baskets of coal hanging from a pole slung across his shoulders, **"Koyla! Koyla!"**

The sight of the coal-seller gave Neela a mental jolt. Here was this old, withered man who, to earn some bread, toiled all day long, carrying heavy baskets of coal and shouting as loudly as he could. Here was a man who was struggling to survive, who was fighting stubbornly against the fate for survival. And here was she—rich, with friends and relatives, contemplating to kill herself. Just one stroke of Fate's left hand and she had surrendered. She felt ashamed of herself. She had had fifteen years of education and yet, what had she learnt? To give up when beaten just once? How much braver, how much wiser was this uneducated coal-seller who had gratefully taken God's gift of life and was struggling to make it last as long as he could make it!

Neela thought of the social work that she had done before her marriage. So what if her parents, brothers and sisters didn't need her help? There were millions of poor, starving people who needed her help desperately. And that treasure—the treasure of Navin's memory—wasn't it always with her? How lucky she was!

Neela walked back into her room, a wiser woman, a braver woman. And all because of a coal-seller!

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Trade & Industry

V. M. Bhatt

TRADE IN THE PACIFIC AREA, ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

As a 'region' Asia has undefinable boundaries. While Africa, Latin America and even Europe can be more or less pin-pointed, on the map of the Globe, as distinct identities with their characteristic political, economic, ethnic and cultural 'colours', 'Asia' remains an amorphous mass vague in concept as a 'region'. Even in the United Nations and its various specialized agencies, the 'geographical extent' of their Asian regional bodies or offices has not been uniform. Asia is a vast region—geographically, and even vaster in terms of its culture and ethos. It stretches from Iran in the West to Japan in the East, Mongolia in the North to the South Pacific islands as well as Australia and Newzealand in the South. At one time, Soviet Union also claimed to possess a part of Asia — its southern mostly islands 'Soviets'. Joseph Stalin used to claim that he was on 'Oriental'!

This perhaps explains why, when the United Nations General Assembly established the 'Regional Economic Commissions it did not define the geography of Ecafe or "Asia and the Far East" except in terms of listing the member countries—a list which even to-day is as elastic as rubber. Almost every year, one country after another sought membership and its inclusion in the geographical scope of Ecafe. Westwards it was stretched upto Iran, but when Israel sought membership and full participation in Ecafe, it ran into heavy weather. Attempts to form a Regional Economic commission for the Middle East have been frustrated by the Arab-Israel confrontation.

While Eastwards, the region has been stretched upto Japan, attempts once thought of by Japan to include Okinawa had to be given up—because of the US-Japan Treaty then. South of the traditional Asian continent, the concept has been stretched further and further. It all began with Australia and New Zealand being welcomed in the geographical scope and the regional membership in Ecope and in the other Asian forums—of the Colombo plan, inspite of their dominant European outlook, culture and exclusiveness. When they joined the Ecafe 'club', I once asked my Australian and Newzealand friends whether they should now be called 'Asian'. Perhaps yes!—If we note that there has been a distinct shift away from the 'white concept'. Since the last fifteen years, Australia and Newzealand systematically and as a matter of policy enlarged and strengthened their political and economic ties with the Asian countries. There is some comfort in thanking Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru of India who replaced the word "Asiatic" (used by the Europeans) into the 'Asian'.

The interest of Australia and Newzealand—and since the closure of the Suez canal—of America and Canada in the enlarged Asia—has increased considerably in recent years. It acquires even greater significance now that China has achieved at long last its rightful place in the world community of nations—which will allow it an opportunity to pay a positive and constructive role in the affairs of Asia. The interest of America, Canada, Japan, Australia and Newzealand in Asian affairs is also bound to increase in the wake of increased interest by China in this region.

If we look at the world map, we can also see that the 'Pacific basis'—i.e. countries bordering on the Pacific ocean and the South Pacific islands—too numerous to count, forms part of Asia by the main reason that Malaysian Peninsula, Korea, Phillipines, Singapore, Taiwan, Japan, Indonesia and Thailand are essentiably Asian countries. The pacific Basin also—in the east includes some of the richest countries—U.S.A., Canada, Japan, Australia and the Newzealand on the one side, and the most populous developing countries — Taiwan, Korea, Hongkong, The Phillipines, Malaysia, Singapore and Indonesia. These developing countries have high economic growth rate—exceeding the minimum 6 per cent per annum targeted in the United Nations Second Development decade.

During the last ten years the Pacific Islands—the Polynesian world—have sought to re-identify its ethnic, cultural and economic interests with the

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Asian continent. Africa all the Polynesians are believed to have ventured into the South Pacific from China, India, Phillipines etc. These islands —several of them in the process of regaining their political independence—have almost rushed to become members of the largest Asian forum namely ECAFE. This process, surprisingly, has been encouraged by Western powers. Thus Samoa, Solomon Islands, Cookies island, Gilburt islands, Fiji, South Pacific islands—and several others have begun to look at Ecafe as their regional forum. Inspite of the fact that there is a 'metropolitan oriental South Pacific commission based at Caledonia. These islands have been drawn into Asian geo-politic—economic content because of Asia's dynamism and in some cases almost a dramatic economic transformation. Thus Asia and the Pacific have almost become one world—a large economic giant capable of activating rapid economic growth. Provided the cold or hot war does not again disturb on their concerted efforts towards economic co-operation and progress. The South Pacific islands have discovered they can benefit from the experience of Asian countries in respect of coconunt, bananas, sugar, root crops timber and above all the great potential of fisheries, shipping, aviation and tourism—Discovery of new resources—for example iron-ore and manganese in Australia, oil and gas in offshore areas have again linked the Pacific basis countries with the Asian continent. The Asia and the Pacific region will perhaps become a crucial area. Sir Alec Douglas Hume stated at Djakarta in July 1972 that "reconciliation and co-operation, political and economic is becoming a new reality. It seems that it is in Asia that the pattern of world power and influence will be decided". Historians of the future may say that the East has been wiser than the West. We must all hope so."

The volume of trade passing across the Pacific has grown so fast in the past twenty years that it is now beginning to rival that across the Atlantic. The Boeing company has made a projection that travel across the Pacific will increase five-fold in the next decade. The world's leading banks have flocked in the last five years in this expansive area. Now investments too are becoming almost equally significant. Japanese private investmost in this vast region has reached $4,000 million. U.K. investments are about $20,000 million and the USA has invested about 75,000 million dollars. Japan has particularly concentrated its investment aid and trade in this region. If Japan were to reach the United Nations official target of aid (of one percent of GNP) by 1975, it would be giving about $4,000 million a year in "official assistance" over and above its private investments. Australia, Newzealand and Canada have also an eye on the region for investment, banking, trade and tourism. China is now a new awakening giant in the Asia Pacific region, although at least for some years to come in respect of "aid and trade" it is unlikely to be sizable. However many of the Asian—Pacific countries are now exploring trade relations, air-line routes, business and cultural contacts with China. Lee Kuan Yew, the Prime Minister of Singapore recently said that "in the years after Mao, China is likely to go more expert than Red. "China will have enough economic weight to make herself felt by smaller countries bordering her". "She will increasingly play the role of Japan in the years before the War, in providing cheap exports in low and middle Technology and products price culting to establish markets for her good."

In this wider spectrum of Asia and the Pacific the "old Asia"—India-Pakistan-Bangladesh—Burma-Ceylon group—cannot afford to neglect the politica and economic future in their obsessions of internal squabbles. In fact these countries —and especially their nationals who are resident in the Asia—Pacific countries should rectify their proved neglect of this potential of trade, investment, tourist and commercial links. Their import-substitution technology which is spiling over into export-promotion needs could be increased, provided that practical realities are appreciated, concerted efforts are made, and above all, they do not remain aloof of ignorant of the dynamism that marks the coming Asia-Pacific progress.

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Indians Abroad

CANADA

Indians Arriving in Canada Face An Uncertain Future

Canadian immigration laws remain in limbo following the suspension last year of the Immigration Act clause whereby a visitor could seek "landed immigrant" status while in Canada. The anti-immigration sentiment that caught fire during the fall election over a decision by the Government to admit some 5,000 Asians expelled from Uganda continues to be felt by all the brown and black immigrants.

In the first week of November, 1972 there were reports of immigration authorities turning back almost all the 'visitors' from India and the West Indies. Indian societies in Canada protested against the alleged mistreatment of the Indian visitors at the Toronto and Montreal airports and termed the implementation of the immigration regulations as racist. Some Toronto lawyers, with brown and black mmigrant clients, concurred in terming the laws as racist.

Numbers Raise Questions

Many have questioned the Trudeau Government's special vigilance against the Indians especially in light of the size of the Indian community in Canada. By nationality of immigrants, Indians are sixth after immigrants from the United States, Britain, the West Indies, Portugal and Italy. Numericaly they constitute a very small 4.36 per cent or 5,313 out of a total of 121,900 immigrants. Over the years this figure has not varied much; in fact, during the 1946-1971 period, the total number of Indian immigrants in Canada has been 34,755 out of 3,536,757 or less than one percent of the total Canadian immigrants. The largest Indian immigrant population is in the English speaking provinces of Ontario and British Columbia.

How does the average Indian immigrant feel about the publicity given and how does he face the unemployment crisis? Ganesh is a 25 year old Law graduate from the University of Delhi who came to Canada about eight months ago. He now lives in Toronto. He says he came here "with high hopes but I soon found that all that glitters is not gold. I have been forced to work as a Security guard for less than $2.00 an hour which is not what I came for. The way the unemployment situation is, I cannot look forward to a change for the better".

The "intended occupation" of 32.8% of the Indian immigrants (1971 figures) was in the Professional groups—engineers, doctors, teachers, computer programmers etc. Dr R. N. Sinha belongs to this group. He is a medical consultant at one of the Government hospitals in Toronto and feels that the "professional people do not fare as badly as the non-professionals, for the simple reason that the competition in their fields is not as intense. A qualified person from India will come to Canada readily whereas a person from the United States or Europe with similar qualifications will be reluctant to do so.

"Still even the professionals have to face the fact of discrimination at one level or the other and the wholesomeness of the society is not as whole as some would like us to believe. The chances, however, are that the younger generation, educated in Canada, will be part of a more open Canadian society, and will face less discrimination".

TURKEY

New Ambassador, a patron of The Indian

Mr K. R. Narayanan (left) is presenting his credentials as the Ambassador of India to the President of the Turkish Republic, Mr Jevdet Sunay, at the President's House, Ankara, on March 5, 1973. The President asked the Indian Ambassador to convey his cordial greetings to President Giri and the people of India. Later, the Indian Ambassador laid a floral wreath at the Ataturk Mauseleum, and visited the Ataturk Museum.

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WEST GERMANY

Exchange of Dolls

There was a unique exchange of dolls last month between the Dolls Museum of the city of Nuremberg, famous centre of the toy industry in Germany, and the International Dolls' Museum of New Delhi, founded by Mr K. Shankar Pillai, Editor of "Shankar's Weekly."

Forty-one Indian costume dolls representing men, women and dancers from the different regions of India were presented to the Mayor of Nuremberg, Mr Porlz by the Indian Embassy, Bonn, on behalf of Mr Shankar Pillai on 1 February. In return, the Mavor presented to the Delhi Dolls' Museum 41 German costume dolls.

The Indian Ambassador, Mr Y. K. Puri, said that the exchange of dolls between the two museums of the Federal Republic of Germany and India "is a delightful part of the ever-growing friendly relations between the peoples of our two countries." The Mayor of Nuremberg, receiving the Indian costume dolls, said that they would be a very valuable addition to the Nuremberg Museum's collections. The Director of the Museum. Dr (Madam) Lydia Bayer, spoke in appreciation of the exchange of dolls.

GUYANA

Indian Cultural Centre Inaugurated

"The Indian Cultural Centre can will, and must make a contribution to the future maturing of the citizens of Guyana".

Speaking to some 150 special invitees at an open air ceremony marking the Centre's inauguration which coincided with India's Republic Day, the Honourable Prime Minister, Mr Forbes Burnham declared that protocol made such a centre formal and permissible as part of any diplomats mission's efforts to promote the culture of it's country. He stressed the necessity of culture in any country, especialy the learning and understanding of other 'people's culture which would make it easier for people to "live as human beings".

"The more you learn about other people's culture and mythology the more you learn how much there is in common with your own," he said.

According to the High Commissioner of India, Dr Gopal Singh, the centre is the fifth such institution to be opened by the Indian Government outside India. It resulted from a request by the Guyana Government for such a centre here made by Prime Minister, Mr Burnham during his visit to India in January, 1971, and its establishment was included in a joint communique issued by Mr Burnham and India's Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi at the end of his visit.

Mr Burnham said that though the culture of India seemed to originate from one section of the world, it belonged to the entire world and he stressed that an understanding of that culture would lead to a better understanding of people in distant parts of the world.

He expressed thanks to the Indian High Commission and to the Government and people of India for establishing the centre in Georgetown.

The guests at the dual ceremony included Cabinet Ministers members of the diplomatic Corps and an impressive list of other V.P.I.s They were entertained to a few quality performances of Indian music and dance as part of the evening's programme.

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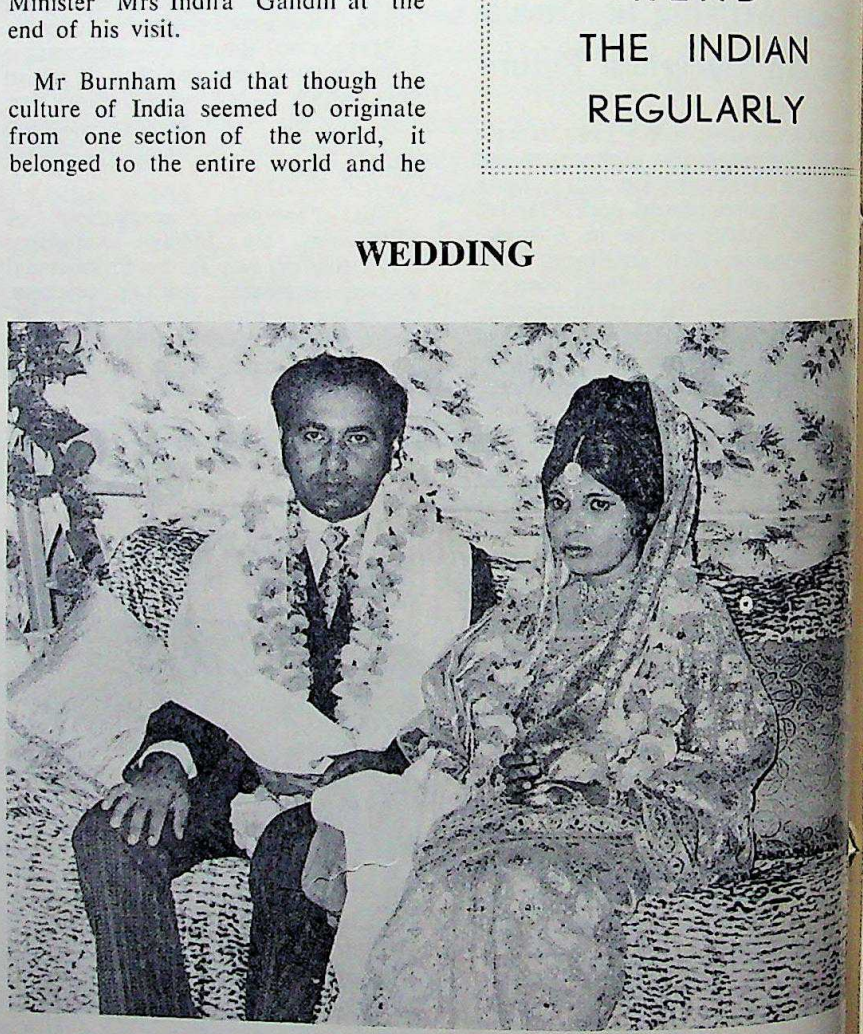
WEDDING



Another typical Indian Wedding was witnessed by a cross section of the Indian and Guyanese community at the Pegasus Hotel in Georgetown.

The Groom, Mr Haresh G. Moorjani of Guyana, son of late Sh. Goverdhandas G. Moorjani was married to Miss Sajini L. Chatlani, daughter of Mr & Mrs Lachmandas Lilaram Chatlani of M/S Maharaja, Georgetown and M/S Melsons, Melwani Co., of Singapore.

The posh wedding was held at the Pegasus Hotel and the reception at the Pegasus Pool side where the guests were treated to a sumptuous buffet and they danced till the wee hours of the morning.

The couple are permanently residing in Guyana where Mr Moorjani is at present Assistant Manager at Kirpalani Bros., of Georgetown, Guyana.

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LONDON

West End Branch of Indian Bank

The **State Bank of India** held a reception at its new West End branch in Clifford Street, W.1., after the branch had been formally opened by Mr J. R. D. Tata. This is the first West End branch of any Indian bank in this country.

Mr M. Rasgotra, Acting High Commissioner for India; Mr C. M. Master, Chairman, **Scindia Steamships (London) Ltd;** Mr M. A. S. Dalal, Regional Director, **Air India;** Mr B. R. Puri, Manager, **Life Insurance Corporation of India;** Mr A. P. Jesudasen, Director, **Tea Board of India;** Mr A. S. Neb, **Shipping Corporation of** India; Mr S. N. Gourisaria, Director, India Weekly; Mr R. Sethia, **K. C. Sethia (1944) Ltd.,** and other Indian businessmen and important City bankers and senior officers of the **Bank of England** were present at the reception.

Mr B. R. Gadre, Lonodn Manager of the State Bank of India, and Mr J. C. Soares, Manager of the new Branch, welcomed the guests.

MAURITIUS

The Mauritius Hindu, community celebrated the 'Holi' festival with great pomp and much rejoicing. 19th March was decreed as special public day. The highlight of the 'Holi' day was when some 80,000 people coming from exery nook and corner of the island gathered in the capital city, Port-Louis and marched in processions along the festooned streets to the Champ de Mars race course ground waving banners, singing devotional songs, dancing, and shouting such slogans as 'Long Live Mauritius, Long Live Sir See, Woosagur Ramgoolam!

For about three hours, the police had the extremely difficult task of canalizing traffic in the busy streets. Port-Louis wore an atmosphere of 'fete' on the association.

At the mammoth mass rally at the Champ de Mars race course ground, the Prime Minister Sir See Woosagur Ramgoolam, Ministers and the Indian High Commissioner joined in the crowd singing 'bhajans', 'Kirtans' and dancing to the rhythm of the 'dholak' and 'jhals'. From head to feet, all the people were besmeared with red coloured water. Popular music director Ravi who was in the island entertained the mass by his superb renderings of 'bhajans'.

This huge rally was in response to a country-wide appeal launched by the Seva-Shivir—a young Hindu movement seeking to safeguard Indian culture and traditions in the island. 'Holi' heralds the approach of the spring season but some people hold that it is celebrated to mark the triumph of good over evil.

—Anand Moheeputh.

A Party after the opening ceremony

(Picture top left) Mr J. R. D. Tata (second from right) taking a flower from the tray containing auspicious offerings of coconuts and flowers, after formally opening the new branch of the State Bank of India. Behind Mr Tata is Mr M. A. S. Dalal. (Picture below left) At the reception (from left) Mr J. C. Soares, Mr B. R. Puri, Mr. A. P. Jesudasen, Mr B. R. Gadre, Mr S. N. Gourisaria, Mr C. M. Master and Mr A. S. Neb. (Picture right) Acting High Commisioner M. Rasgotra (left) with Mr Gadre and Mr Soares.

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UNITED STATES

India League of America

The India League of America, founded on July 29, 1972 to replace the Federation of India Student Associations, has established roots in the large Indian community of Chicago, and hopes to expand to the entire Indian community in North America.

Chandra Jha, corporate director of management systems for the Tishman Realty and Construction Corporation, is President of the league. In a recent interview, he explained the goal of ILA is "to bring all the Indian organizations under the same umbrella. ILA can play a role to bring all the organizations together with some cohesiveness."

Jha noted that the character of the Indian community has changed. In the early 1960's, he added, many of the Indians were students, and FISA functioned to serve that community. However, now, a growing number of South Asians have decided to remain in the United States, but retain some ties with India. The basic objective of ILA, according to Mr. Jha, is "to bring residents and students together in a cohesive community."

Now 500 Strong

At the present time, the India League of America has between four and five hundred dues-paying members. The majority of the members are students, but the goal is to have a majority of nationals. Jha intends to "widen the membership throughout North America" and to that goal points out that some people on the board of directors of ILA are from Los Angeles and Michigan.

The organization's name deliberately recalls the first organization of this type, the India League of America, of the 1940's. **News and Views,** the bulletin of the India League of America, described the earlier League, under the presidency of Mr. J. J. Singh, as "the embodiment, in this country, of India's spirit in its fight for independence." The current India League of America "hopes to capture that same indomitable spirit of service, of selflessness to a cause" that characterized its predecessor, the bulletin continued.

The objectives of ILA are "to bring the residents and students of Indian origin in North America into a cohesive community" and "to build bridges between North America and India by encouraging educational, economic, social and cultural exchanges to promote co-operation and communication" between the two communities in North America.

New Immigration Law

More Realistic

An increasing number of immigrants have been coming to the United States in recent years, particularly from those countries—such as India—that were previously denied full access because of a quota system that was often discriminatory.

The increase in aliens who are given permission to enter and live and work in this country has come about because of a liberalization of the immigration laws, as a result of which visa considerations are now made on a first-come-first-served basis, regardless of race or national origin.

This liberalization was instituted in 1965, when the U.S. Immigration and Nationality Act was amended.

The amendment provided for the eradication of the old quota system under which three countries, Great Britain, Germany and Ireland, received about 70 per cent of the total "Eastern Hemisphere" quota of immigrant visas.

Now, the new law stipulates that any country in the "Eastern Hemisphere" (that is, the whole world excepting the Americas) is entitled to a maximum of 20,000 immigrant visa numbers per year, within a total annual Eastern Hemisphere ceiling of 170,000.

"Immediate relatives" of American citizens—children, spouses and parents —are excluded from this numerical ceiling.

Preference System

For the Eastern Hemisphere, a system of eight preference categories has been established and these categories demonstrate the fundamental intention of the U.S. immigration system—to help reunite families and to bring aliens here who have certain needed job skills. The categories are:

Immediate Relatives—No numerical limitation—children, spouses and parents (with children over 21 years of age) of U.S. citizens.

First Preference—20% or 34,000 visa numbers—unmarried sons and daughters (over 21 years of age) of U.S. citizens.

Second Preference—20% or 34,000 visa numbers—spouses and unmarried sons and daughters of permanent resident aliens.

Third Preference—10% or 17,000 visa numbers—professionals or persons of exceptional ability in the arts and sciences.

Fourth Preference—10% or 17,000 visa numbers—Married sons and daughters of U.S. citizens.

Fifth Preference—24% or 40,800 visa numbers—Brothers and sisters of U.S. citizens.

Sixth Preference—10% or 17,000 visa numbers—skilled or unskilled labour, not of a temporary or seasonal nature, for which a shortage of employable and willing persons exists in the U.S.

Seventh Preference—6% or 10,200 visa numbers—political refugees or refugees from natural catastrophe.

Non-Preference — visa numbers within the numerical ceiling of 170,000 which are not used in any of the above categories—for qualified non-preference immigrants.

Another provision requires aliens seeking entrance to the United States as immigrants, for the purpose of performing skilled or unskilled labour, to first obtain a certification from the Secretary of Labour that

- there are not sufficient workers in the U.S. who are able, willing, qualified and available to perform such skilled or unskilled labour and
- the employment of such aliens would not adversely effect the wages and working conditions of workers in the U.S. similarly employed.

Excluded from this labour certification requirement are persons in the immediate relative, first, second, fourth, fifth, seventh preference categories and certain non-preference aliens who are not coming to perform skilled or unskilled labour.

Certifications System

These certifications by the Secretary of Labour take three forms:

1. **Schedule A**—The Labour Department has published a list, called Schedule A (See Box). Occupations on this list have been determined to be in short supply throughout the U.S. Aliens who qualify under Schedule A can file under the third or non-preference categories without an employment offer.

2. **PSA—not Schedule A.** Aliens who are qualified professionals, scientists and artists but whose occupations are not listed on Schedule A and who the Department of Labour determines meet the standards for inclusion as a member of the professions or as an outstanding scientist or artist as well as • availability of American workers and possible adverse effect on U.S. workers, will be granted a "PSA-not scheduled A" labour certification.

Aliens who think they may be qualified under PSA-Not Schedule A can file under the third preference category without an offer of employment. It should be noted that

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Labour Department may decline to issue a PSA-not Schedule A certification which would then result in the Immigration Service denying the third preference petition.

3. **Job Offer (or Individual) Labour Certification.** The Labour Departments Schedule B (See Box) is a list of occupations for which Labour certifications will **not** be granted. Aliens whose occupations are not on Schedule B and who can find an employer who will offer them employment can file an application for an individual labour certification at the local office of the **State** Employment Service where the employer is located. If the wage offer appears to be at the prevailing wage for the occupation in the area of employment and if there are no qualified and available applicants in the local office files the application will usually be approved and the certification granted.

Possibilities for Others

Now what about an alien who does not have close enough relatives to qualify as an immediate relative or under the first, second, fourth and fifth preferences; or who does not qualify under the Labour Department's Schedule A; or who cannot obtain a PSA-Not Schedule A certification nor an offer of employment which will possibly help him to obtain an individual or job offer labour certification; or who can obtain an offer of employment but finds that the labour department has denied or will deny him a certification. What other possibilities are available? Here are a few:

- The alien may have a brother or sister who is a permanent resident. If the brother or sister is eligible for U.S. citizenship and becomes a citizen then the fifth preference category is available for him or her.

- An alien in the U.S. or coming to the U.S. to attend school for a period of time longer than two years and who has sufficient financial resources available to demonstrate that he or she will not have to work during this period may be eligible under the non-preference category for permanent residence.

READ
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SCHEDULE A

Occupations in Short Supply

Group I: Persons who have received an advanced degree in any of the following specialties from an institution of higher learning accredited in the country where the degree was obtained (equivalent to a Ph.D. or Master's degree conferred by American colleges or universities).

Dietetics, Pharmacy, Medicine and Surgery, Physical Therapy, Nursing.

Group II: Persons who have received a degree conferred by an accredited institution of higher learning in any of the following specialties (equivalent to the bachelor's degree conferred by American colleges or universities) or have experience or a combination of experience and education equivalent to such a degree:

Dietetics, Pharmacy, Nursing, Physical Therapy.

Group III: Persons coming to the U.S. to perform duties required of them as members of religious organizations in the United States.

SCHEDULE B

Un-certifiable Occupations

Assemblers.
Attendants, Parking Lot.
Attendants (Service Workers such as Personal Service Attendants, Amusement and Recreation Service Attendants).
Automobile Service Station Attendants.
Bartenders.
Bookkeepers II.
Bus Boys.
Cashiers.
Chauffeurs and Taxicab Drivers.
Charwomen and Cleaners.
Clerks, General.
Clerks, Hotel.
Clerks and Checkers, Grocery Stores.
Clerk, Typists.
Cooks, Short Order.
Counter and Fountain Workers.
Electric Truck Operators.
Elevator Operators.
Floormen, Floorboys, and Floorgirls.
Groundskeepers.
Guards and Watchmen.
Helpers, any Industry.
Household Domestic Service Workers.
Housekeepers.
Housemen and Yardmen.
Janitors.
Key Punch Operators
Kitchen Workers.
Laborers, Farm.
Laborers, Mine.
Laborers, Common.
Loopers and Toppers.
Maids, Hotel and Motel.
Men-of-all-Work.
Material Handlers.
Nurses' Aides and Orderlies.
Packers, Markers, Bottlers, and Related.
Porters.
Receptionists.
Sailors and Deck Hands.
Sales Clerks, General.
Sewing Machine Operators and Handstitchers.
Street Railway and Bus Conductors.
Telephone Operators.
Truck Drivers and Tractor Drivers.
Typists, Lesser Skilled.
Ushers, Recreation and Amusement.
Warehousemen.

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HONG KONG

March is usually a busy month for the Indian community, not just because it is the last month of accounting year, but more because of the elections held by major Indian organisations.

The Indian Chamber of Commerce

Mr K. Sital a prominent businessman and publisher of the Indian was elected Chairman of the Chamber for the year 1973-1974. The new executive committee elected to support Mr Sital includes most of the prominent Indian businessmen such as Mr Hari N. Harilela, J.P., Mr H. T. Barma, J.P., Mr I. P. Gohel, Mr D. S. Mohan, Mr M. P. Ladharam (Vice-Chairman), Mr J. Mulchand (Vice-Chairman), Mr G. B. Mahbubani, Mr R. K. Sood, (Honorary Treasurer) Mr T. U. Arjan, Mr Govind Khemaney and Mr Madhu Panjabi. It is after several years that the Indian Chamber has the privilege of being managed by such a powerful team.

The H.K. Indian Women's Club

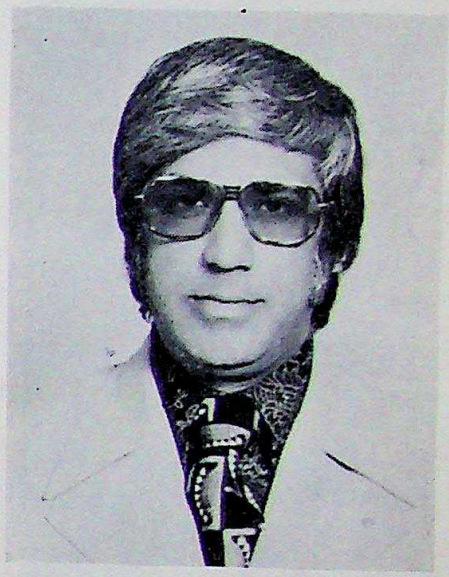
At the Annual General Meeting of the H.K. Indian Women's Club held at the Mandarin Hotel, the following Office bearers and Executive committee members were elected for the year 1973/74:

President—Mrs Kamla Kapahi, Vice President—Mrs Perin Pavri, Hon. Secretary—Mrs Oomaina Hoosenally, Joint Hon. Treasurers: Mrs Kamla Kirpalani and Mrs Savita Pamani. Executive Committee Members: Mrs Pamy Aswani, Mrs Ganga Bharwani, Mrs Sumi Desai, Mrs Leela Govind, Mrs Paru Jethwani, Mrs Shushi Mahbubani, Mrs Guni Murjani, Mrs Shoba Sani, Mrs Perviz Shroff & Mrs Kirin Sippy.

Mrs Kamla Kapahi

The India Association

At the Annual General Meeting of India Association held on 29th March 1973, the following were elected.



Mr Bob N. Harilela

President: Mr Bob N. Harilela, Vice President: Mr M. N. Master & Mr K. Sital, Treasurer: Mr N. A. Arora, Hon. Secretary: Mr S. S. Tulsi, Committee Members: Messrs. Hatim Ebrahim, M. P. Ladharam, D. K. Patel, T. G. Raj, K. B. Rathi, Tehal Singh, Gulab Tejwani, K. Venugopalan, Mr M. S. Wasan, and Mohamed Yoonus.

At the Indian Chamber luncheon, seen L to R are: Mr S. A. Ram (Secretary) Mr I. P. Gohel, Mr H. T. Barma, Mr Govind Khemaney, Mr H. N. Harilela, Mr L. N. Rangarajan (Indian Commisioner), Mr K. Sital (Chairman), Hon. Dhun Ruttonjee, Mr J. Mulchand (Vice-Chairman), Mr R. K. Sood, Mr. M. P. Ladharam (Vice-Chairman) and Mr T. U. Arjan.

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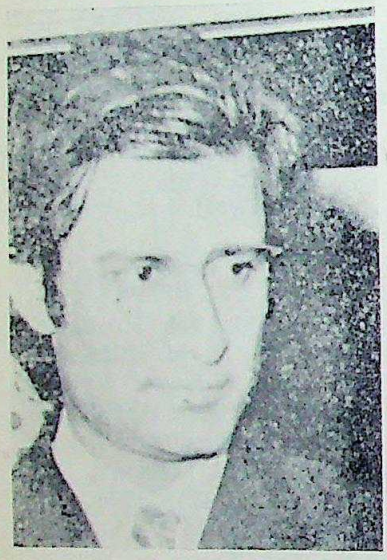
The India Commission

Mr Kamlesh Sharma, First secretary to the Commission was transferred back home on completion of his term of duty. Mr Sharma was a very popular officer with the local community and will be missed here. It was, to a large measure due to Mr Sharma's leadership that the Indian community was able to raise large amounts in aid of the Bangladesh Refugee Fund, and to organise year long celebrations of the Silver Jubilee of the Indian Independence. Mr Sharma is succeeded by Mr N. K. Nair.



Mr Kamlesh Sharma

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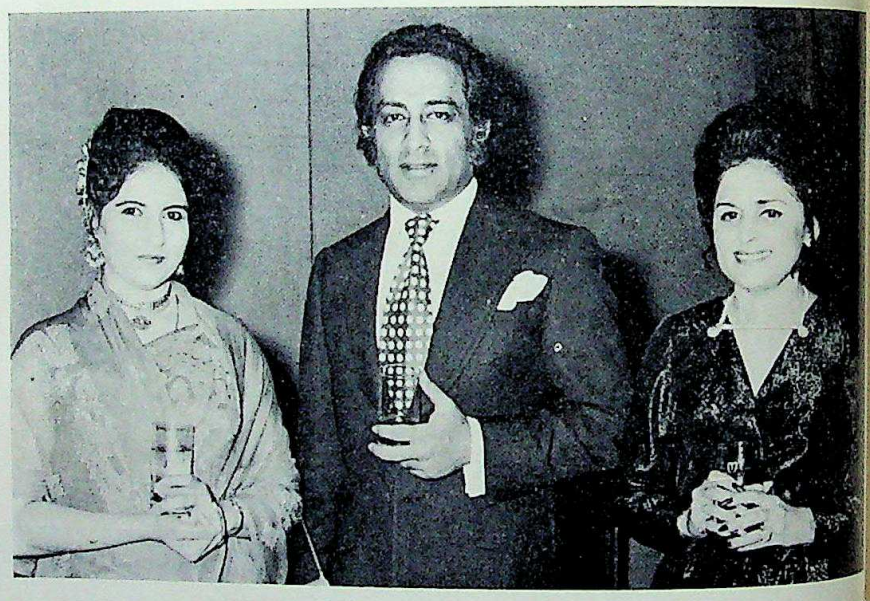
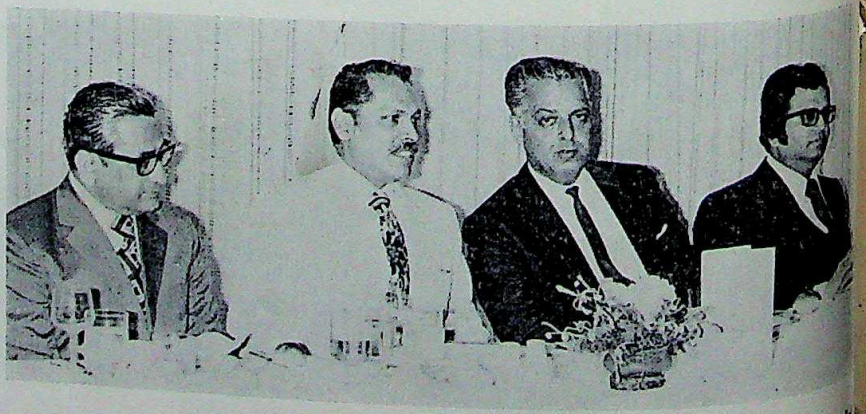
Friends of Mr Roy Hemrajani, Director of Monet Limited, held a farewell dinner for him at the Hyatt Regency's Hugo's Private Rooms.

Photo shows: Mr. L. G. Hemraiani Mr P. Raney, Mr. A. Khemchandani, Mr R. Hemrajani and Mr J. Sakrani.



Mr and Mrs Pishu Mahtani gave a lovely dinner party at Mandarin Hotel to celebrate their wedding anniversary. Seen here are Mrs Lita Sital and Mr and Mrs Mahtani.



A lunch reception was given by Mr Arjan Nanwani of Amalgamated Wor Exporters in honour of Mr A. D. Rege, General Manager, Overseas Branche Bank of India.

Seen L to R are: Mr K. Dialdas, Mr Keshav L. Sakhraney, Mr A. D. Reg and host.

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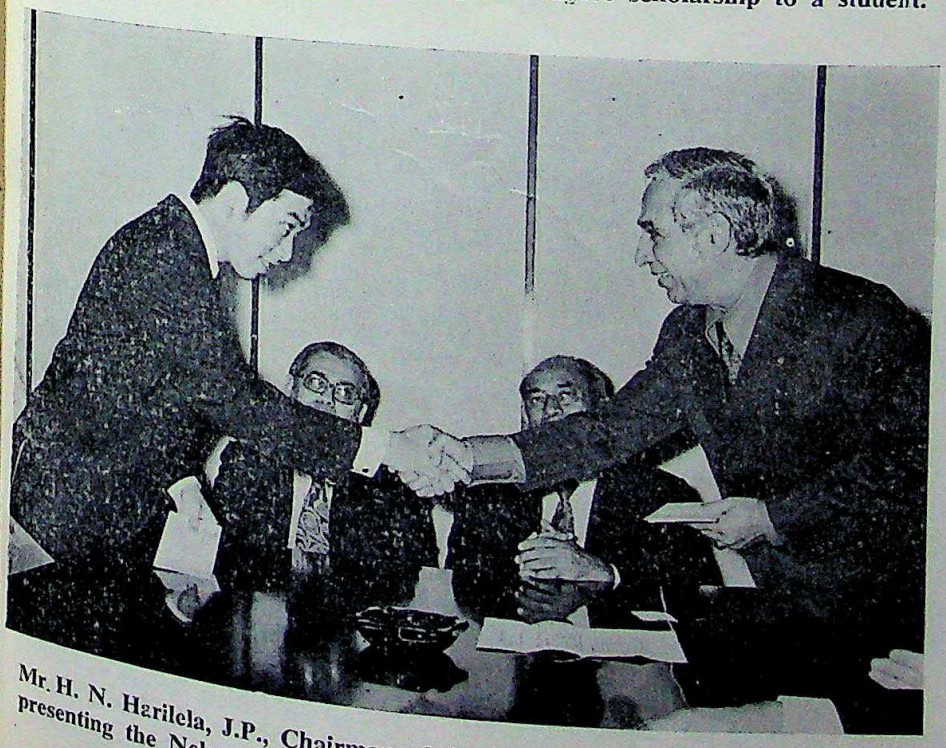
Tagore & Nehru Scholarships

Trustees of the Tagore Memorial Trust and the Nehru Memorial Trust announced their annual awards of educational scholarships to 6 & 7 local Chinese students respectively. The trusts were created by local Indians to honour the memory of two eminent men of India.

Blood Donation

The Indian Chamber recently organised a blood donation compaign. The mobile unit of the Red Cross Society set up a collection centre at the Chamber's premises and 34 persons including several ladies donated blood.

Hon'ble Dhun Ruttonjee, C.B.E., L.L.D., J.P., Chairman of the Tagore Centenary Trust Committee presenting the Tagore scholarship to a student.



Mr. H. N. Harilela, J.P., Chairman of the Nehru Memorial Trust Committee presenting the Nehru Memorial Scholarship to a student.

SETH WADHUMAL DALAMAL

Seth Wadhumal Dalamal, the only survivor of the four brothers who build 'Dalamal' organisation and put 'Dalamal' name on world map, passed away in Bangkok on 1st April 1973 due to heart attack.

A high-level Indo-Tanzanian committee has been formed following talks between Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and the Tanzanian Vice-President Aboud Jumbe Mwinyi to go into certain concrete proposals for economic and technical co-operation between the two countriee.

●

Commerce Minister D. P. Chattopadhyaya has allayed apprehensions that the Centre planned to take over tea plantations by saying that the Government will be obliged to intervene only if the industry cannot take care of itself.

●

Admiral S. M. Nanda, the outgoing Chief of Naval Staff, recently laid the foundation-stone for a ship-building dock at the Garden Reach Workshop near Calcutta.

●

T. K. Shammugham, MLC and doyen of the Tamil stage and screen, died in Madras on February 15 at the age of 61.

●

The South Indian Film Chamber of Commerce has started an institute offering a two-year course in acting in Tamil, Malaylam, Telugu and Kannada.

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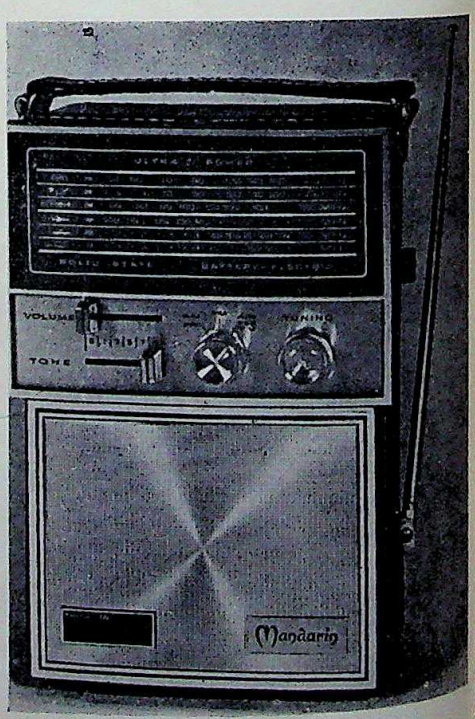

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Gleanings from Indian press

The Director-General of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, M. S. Swaminathan, has announced the setting up of a national agricultural museum in New Delhi, which will be the first of its kind in Asia and serve as a demonstration centre to popularise modern agricultural practices.

●

Kerala's pro-Marxist section of non-gazetted officers and teachers have unconditionally called off their seven-week old strike after their Joint Action Council had told them to return to work.

●

India and Nepal have signed an agreement worth Rs 40 million relating to additional grants for various projects. These include education, minor irrigation, health and road development.

●

Four miners were killed and three others injured when police opened fire on a stone throwing mob of colliery workers at Kargail in the Giridih district of Bihar.

●

The Government of India has now revised its earlier decision and decided to bring the new steel plants at Vizag, Hospet and Salem under the Steel Authority of India Limited. It has also appointed A. R. Sankaranarayan as the Secretary of the company.

●

K. R. Ganesh, the Minister of Revenue and Expenditure, told the Lok Sabha recently that there were 20 foreign companies with income-tax arrears of Rs 50,000 or more as of March 31, 1972.

HOMAGE TO GANDHIJI

H. E. Aboud Jumbe Mwinyi, First Vice-President of the United Republic of Tanzania, visited Raj Ghat in New Delhi on February 21, 1973, to pay his homage to the memory of Mahatma Gandhi.

Photo shows Mr Mwinyi laying a wreath at the samadhi of Mahatma Gandhi.

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First results, from six districts, block Pramukhs election in U.P.'s panchayats, credit the Congress with having captured a large majority of the seats.

•

Father Vadakkan, the founder leader of Kerala's Karshaka Thozhilali Party, has begun an indefinite fast to protest against the alleged eviction of Malayalee settlers from the Gudalur area of Tamil Nadu.

•

K. R. Ganesh, the Minister of State for Finance, admitted in the Lok Sabha that the Finance Ministry had sent a secret circular which notified all the Government undertakings that before they finalised any agreements with workers on wage increases they should refer the proposals to the Central Government for approval.

•

The Oil and Natural Gas Commission is to increase its annual crude oil output from four to eight million tonnes and create a crude oil reserve of 64 million tonnes by the end of the fifth Plan period.

•

The Prime Minister announced in the Lok Sabha that India would develop the capability to launch a scientific satellite by 1976-77.

•

The Instrumentation Limited, Kota, has secured a Rs 15 million export order for turnkey provision of instrumentation for a power plant in Malaysia.

•

On the request of the Iraqi Government, India is to conduct feasibility studies for a railway line from Hsaibagh to Akasha. It is a also submitting a tender for a semi-integrated steel plant in Iraq.

•

About 45,000 Indian seamen serving on foreign-going vessels will receive an overall cash benefit of about 35 to 40 per cent folowing an agreement between unions and Indian and British ship-owners.

India's New Budget

Heroic effort by Finance Minister Chavan

Days before Union Finance Minister Y. B. Chavan presented the national budget last week, financial scribes had predicted fresh taxation to the tune of Rs 2.5 billion. The figure was almost exactly the same when Chavan disclosed measure after measure in a massive dose of fresh levies with which he proposed to meet the estimated overall deficit of Rs 3.35 billion for 1973-74. Of the revenues from the new levies, estimated at Rs 2.92 billion, Rs 420 million would go to the States, the Centre's share being Rs 2.5 billion. This still left an uncovered deficit of Rs 850 million which would certainly increase when the Central Pay Commission's recommendations are implemented as they are expected to be received and implemented before long.

The Finance Minister had no easy task, the state of economy being what it has been during the past two years. Quite apart from other assessments, the pre-budget Economic Survey had underlined the grim prospects and the need for resource mobilisation in a big way. For one thing, the current financial year is likely to end with a huge deficit of Rs 5.5 billion against the estimate Rs 2.51 billion in the last budget. this is despite an increase by as mu as Rs 7.18 billion in receipts, bo capital and revenue, which was per cent more than the origin estimates, it is because of the drou that had hit large parts of the co try and the emergency food dri For another, the Finance Minister h to provide for a faster econo growth with "greater social justi and self-reliance". Thus, as claimed, the articles of mass co sumption had been left untouched fresh imposts in order to avoid a undue burden on the common ma

With estimated revenue receipts Rs 48.31 billion and an expendit of Rs 47.52 billion, the budget show a revenue surplus of Rs 790 milli But on capital account the deficit w of the order of Rs 4.14 billion w receipts estimated at Rs 24.6 bill and expenditure at Rs 28.74 billio leaving an overall deficit of Rs 3. billion.

Although the Finance Minis claimed he had attempted to ch the inflationary spiral by keeping deficit at a low level of Rs 850 m lion, and had, in the process, ta only the affluent sections of the p ple, in the very nature of things th was bound to be sympathetic rise

Budget at a glance

(Rupees in Crores)

	1972-73 Budget	1972-73 Revised	1973-74 Budget
REVENUE			
Receipts	4,467	4,628	4,831
			(+) 250@
Expenditure	4,124	4,591	4,752
	(+) 343	(+) 37	(+) 79
			+ 250@
CAPITAL			
Receipts	2,095	2,652	2,460
Expenditure	2,689	3,239	2,874
	(—) 594	(—) 587	(—) 414
OVERALL DEFICIT	(—) 251	(—) 550	(—) 335
			+ 250@
			85
			Uncovered Deficit

@ Effect of Budget Proposals.
*Rs 1 crore = Rs 10 million

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prices, affecting everybody in the sweep. Cigarettes, petrol, cotton, art silk, synthetic fabrics, domestic electrical appliances, including refrigerators and air-conditioners, and steel and aluminium products, besides a number of other items, will cost more as a result of fresh levies. But these, in turn, will indirectly touch many other items. It was argued, for instance, that with the rise in the price of motor spirit, the fares of public transport will rise, too.

The most important aspect of direct taxation proposals lay in the inclusion of agricultural wealth to implement in part the proposals of the Raj Committee. Agricultural and non-agricultural incomes have partially been integrated for tax purposes. The first Rs 5,000 of non-agricultural income will be appropriated to the lowest tax-exempt slab, agricultural income to the middle slabs and the balance of non-agricultural income to the upper slabs of aggregate income.

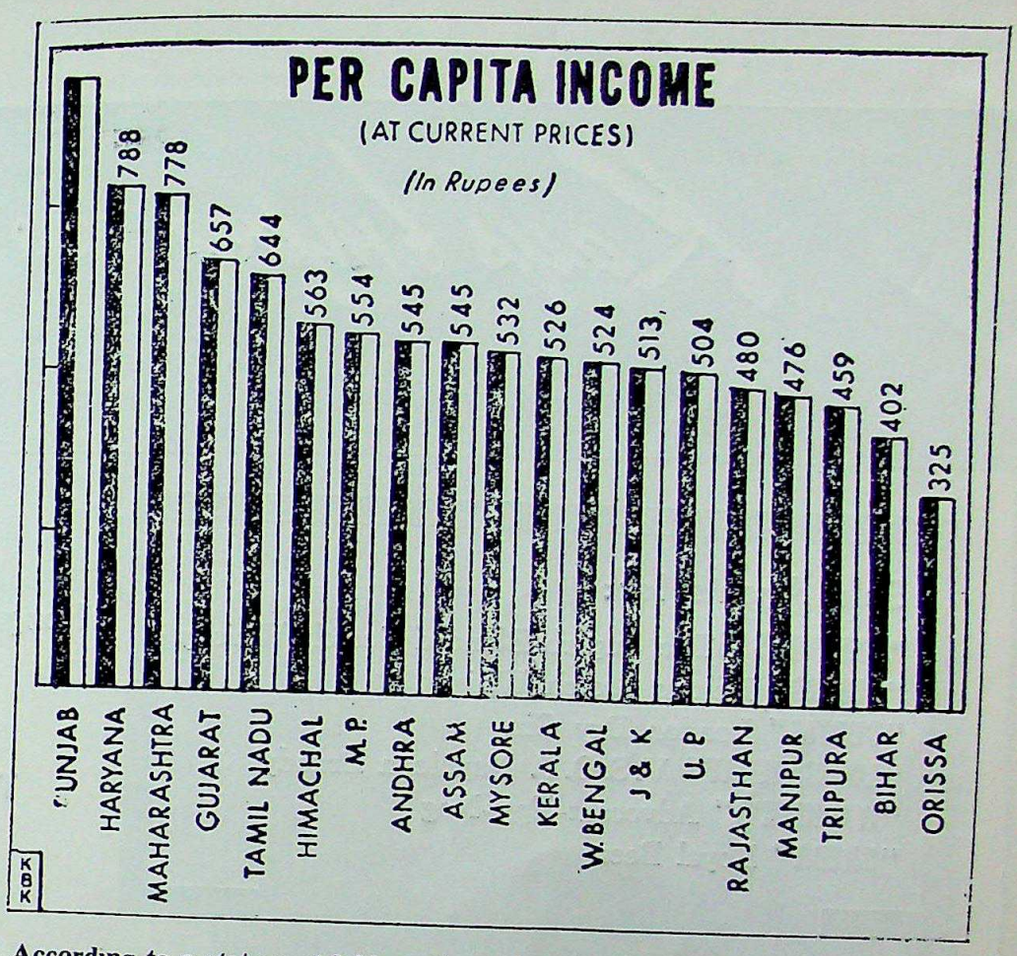
Higher rates have been proposed for income tax and wealth tax from Hindu undivided families while the minimum exemption limit for them as for individuals, has been brought down to Rs 5,000—which is aimed at giving effect to the recommendations of the Wanchoo Committee on direct taxation.

Chavan said the total yield from customs duties proposed would be Rs 1.56 billion and that from excise duties Rs 1.18 billion. Of this the States will get Rs 380 million. The direct taxes were expected to net in Rs 310 milion in a full year and Rs 180.6 million in 1973-74 of which the Centre's share will be Rs 140 million.

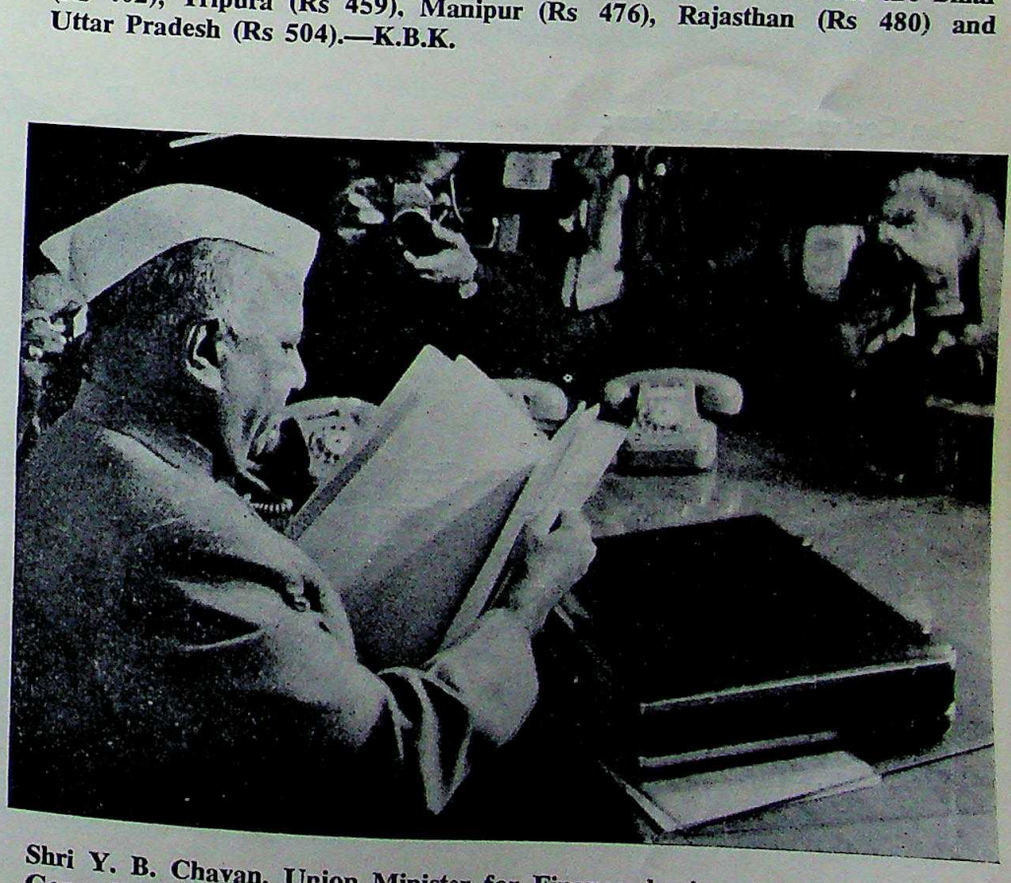
Alongside the new levies, the Finance Minister announced a number of relief measures, too, as incentives to investment for development of backward areas, to encourage savings, and broaden the industrial base. Also, the Bangladesh refugee relief measures will be withdrawn as from April 1 next.

Tax exemptions for contribution to provident fund and insurance premia are to be liberalised, while industries set up in backward areas after March 31, this year, are to be allowed a deduction equal to 20 per cent of the profits for 10 years.

Chavan emphasised the need for economy in expenditure to contain the inflationary pressures, yet in the framework of growth for "greater social justice" the expenditure for the last year of the fourth Plan had been increased from Rs 40.11 billion to Rs 43.56 billion. A provision of Rs 1.5 billion had been made for advance action on the fifth Plan and Rs 1 billion for generating employment opportunities for an additional half a million educated people.



According to a statement laid on the table of the Lok Sabha by the Planning Minister, Punjab leads in per capita income at current prices with Rs 945, followed by Haryana (Rs 788), Maharashtra (Rs 778), Gujarat (Rs 657) and Tamil Nadu (Rs. 644). The lowest per capita incomes of Rs 325 has been recorded in Orissa. The other states at the bottom of the ladder are Bihar (Rs 402), Tripura (Rs 459), Manipur (Rs 476), Rajasthan (Rs 480) and Uttar Pradesh (Rs 504).—K.B.K.



Shri Y. B. Chavan, Union Minister for Finance, having a final look at the General Budget for 1973-74 before presenting it to the Parliament in New Delhi on February 28, 1973.

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The Orissa Cabinet has accepted, and will take follow-up action, on the report of the Sarjoo Prasad Commission of Inquiry, which had held Hare Krushna Mahatab, a former Chief Minister, guilty of corruption.

●

The Orissa Government has constituted one-man commission of inquiry to probe the Kendu leaf deals between 1970 and 1972.

●

Ram Piara, an Independent MLA from Karnal, has submitted a second memorandum to the President containing allegations of corruption against Haryana Chief Minister Bansi Lal.

●

Suniti Kumar Chatterji, the well known Sanskrit scholar, has been re-elected President of the Sahitya Academi.

●

A hundred-year-old letter written on a deer skin, recently discovered in an earthen pot near Wani in Maharashtra, tells of a treasure of Rs 50 million being hidden in an abandoned well as a protective measure against thugs.

●

The deaths occurred of T. V. Raju, the well known music director of Tamil and Telugu films in Madras on February 22, of Pitambar Pant, member, Planning Commission, in New Delhi on February 26 and of Badridas Goenka, the noted industrialist, in Calcutta on February 26.

●

A scheme costing Rs 1 billion has been submitted to the Planning Commission by the International Airport Development Authority for the development of airport complexes at Bombay, Delhi, Calcutta and Madras during the fifth Plan.

●

India and Sudan have signed an agreement for a "swing credit" which will come into force from August next and will enable the two countries to continue imports up to a specified limit even without a credit balance.

Deference expenditure is to be retained at Rs 16 bilion, and though special accommodation to the States was to be restricted to Rs 1.19 billion, a provision for Rs 1 billion was being made for relief in the event of natural calamities.

As was expected, reaction to the budget was as mixed as it generally is: Congressmen generally felt the Finance Minister could not have done better while opposition spokesmen called the tax proposals inflationary, which would hit the common man as prices were bound to rise. Congress extremenists thought it was a "status quo" budget and CPM's Jyotirmoy Bosu saw in it a "surrender to monopoly."

The opposition in the Lok Sabha made a demonstrative bid when it carried the introduction of the Finance Bill to a division, despite the Speaker's plea not to create a precedent. However, the result, a foregone conclusion, was—249 votes in favour and 69 against.

* * *

The new Ambassador of United States of America, Mr Daniel Patrick Moynihan, shaking hands after presenting his credentials to the President, Shri V. V. Giri, at Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi on February 28, 1973.

An interesting study of the Prime Minister, Mrs Indira Gandhi, who is engaged in animated conversation with the Nepalese Foreign Minister, Mr Gyanendra Bahadur Karki, during her recent visit to Nepal in February.

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What script should Sindhi use?

To protest against the Education Ministry's prescription of two scripts for the Sindhi language, 52 Sindhi writers, journalists, artists and educationalists last week went on a 48-hour hunger strike outside the Boat Club.

Earlier that day, the President of the Akhil Bharat Sindhi Boli and Sahit Sabha, Kirat Babani, told newsmen that a communal minority was trying to Hinduise Sindhi by imposing an alternative script on the grounds that the Arabic script was "of Islamic origin". This, he said, was a dangerous trend that had to be fought, and he expressed suprise that a secular and democratic Government was endorsing it.

Babani also charged the Government with experimenting with the Stateless minority by introducing an "operational script changeover," which was discriminatory and violative of the fundamental rights of the minorities to preserve their language, script, and culture as guaranteed under Article 29 (1) of the Constitution.

The Sindhi spokesmen alleged that an attempt to teach Sindhi in the Devanagri script had failed when tried in some schools in Delhi and Uttar Pradesh, resulting in the closure of the schools in U.P. and a drop in the number of pupils in the schools in the Capital. On the other hand, schools in Gujarat, Maharashtra and Rajasthan, where the old script was being used, were thriving.

What is more an overwhelming amount of Sindhi literature, being produced in the country, was in the Arabic script and the task of translating all the literature was clearly impossible. The 32-Alphabet Devanagri script was quite inadequate compared to the 52-letter Arabic script, it was contended.

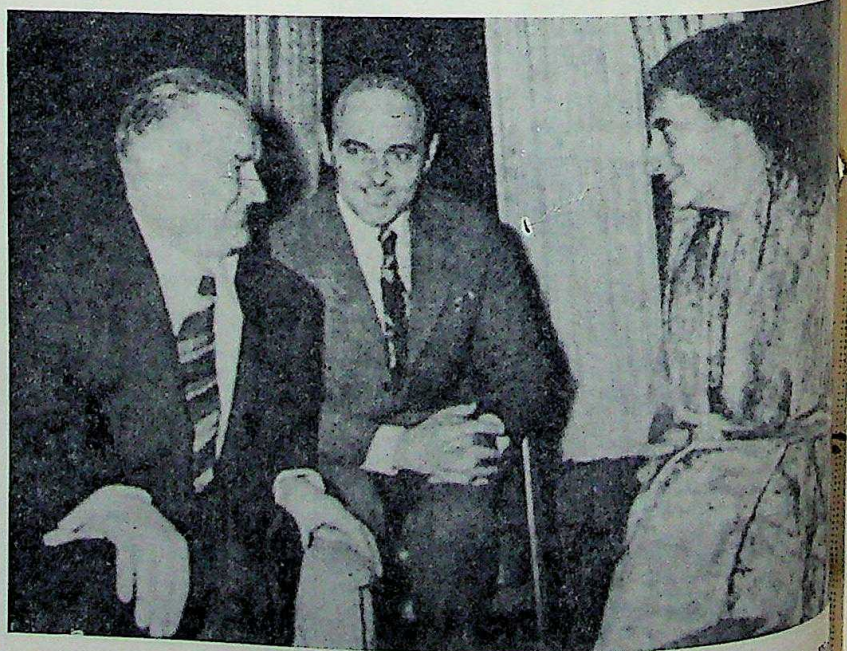
The Sabha intended to follow up the hunger strike with a signature campaign and a memorandum to Parliament.

Meanwhile, two other groups of Sindhi writers and educationalists have met the Prime Minister and pressed for the recognition of Devanagri as the sole script for Sindhi. The first was a delegation from the Sarva Bharat Boli Sahitya Kala Vikas Sabha which bases its demand on the ground that 97 per cent of the Sindhis were scattered in the Devanagri zone and the other was a delegation from the All-India Sindhi Writers Guild which is demanding the recognition of the Devanagri Sindhi script on the ground that it has been the script of the Sindhi language for centuries.

Mongolian Prime Minister in India
Joint declaration on peace in Asia

Mr Tsedenbal, Prime Minister of Monoglia, with Mrs Gandhi on his arrival at Delhi airport.

Polish Prime Minister in New Delhi
An Indo-Polish agreement signed



The Prime Minister, Mrs Indira Gandhi, in conversation with H.E. Mr J... Jaroszewicz, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Polish Peop... Republic, when he called on her in New Delhi.

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Twenty-five Shivaratri pilgrims were crushed to death and 35 others injured when the bus that was carrying them hurtled down a distance of 25 km near Mahavir, 100 km from Kathmandu.

•

India recently signed an agreement with Britain for an interest-free loan of Rs 950 million which will cover the import from Britain of non-project goods like spare parts and components required to service India's agricultural and industrial production.

•

An Indian tobaccao company which has secured orders for the export of cigarettes to Switzerland Belgium and Holland is to export Rs 2,500,000 worth of cigarettes to the Soviet Union.

•

As an amendment to the Indian Railway Act, a bill was recently introduced in the Lok Sabha providing for deterrent punishment for offences relating to carrying inflammable articles in trains, the unjustified pulling of the alarm chain, entraining or detraining in unauthorised places and tampering with the railway track.

•

Following investigations by the CID (Crime Branch) of Rajasthan State, gang of cheats has been rounded up for allegedly drawing huge sums of money in the name of Government departments through forged cheques.

•

The Uttar Pradesh Government has appointed an engineer in place of an IAS officer as Secretary of the State Electricity Board in accordance with an assurance it had given to striking UP power engineers in January.

•

Violence has again erupted on the campus of the Banaras Hindu University following police attempts to disperse a student procession that was trying to get through to the central office to observe dharna in support of their demand for the removal of the Vice-Chancellor.

AIR-INDIA'S NEW BOOKING SYSTEM

Mr K. K. Unni, Managing Director of Air-India keyed in the first message from the Air-India London (Bond Street) Office to the BOADICEA Computer System, watched by (l. to r.) Mr M. S. Rau—Controller of BOADICEA, Mr Maneck Dalal—Regional Director, U.K., Mr S. B. Irani—Reservations Manager, U.K. and Mr P. Jayant—Manager—M.I. & A.S. Division, Bombay.

Yugoslav Prime Minister Visits India

Yugoslav Prime Minister Dzemal Bijedic and his wife being greeted at Palam by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.

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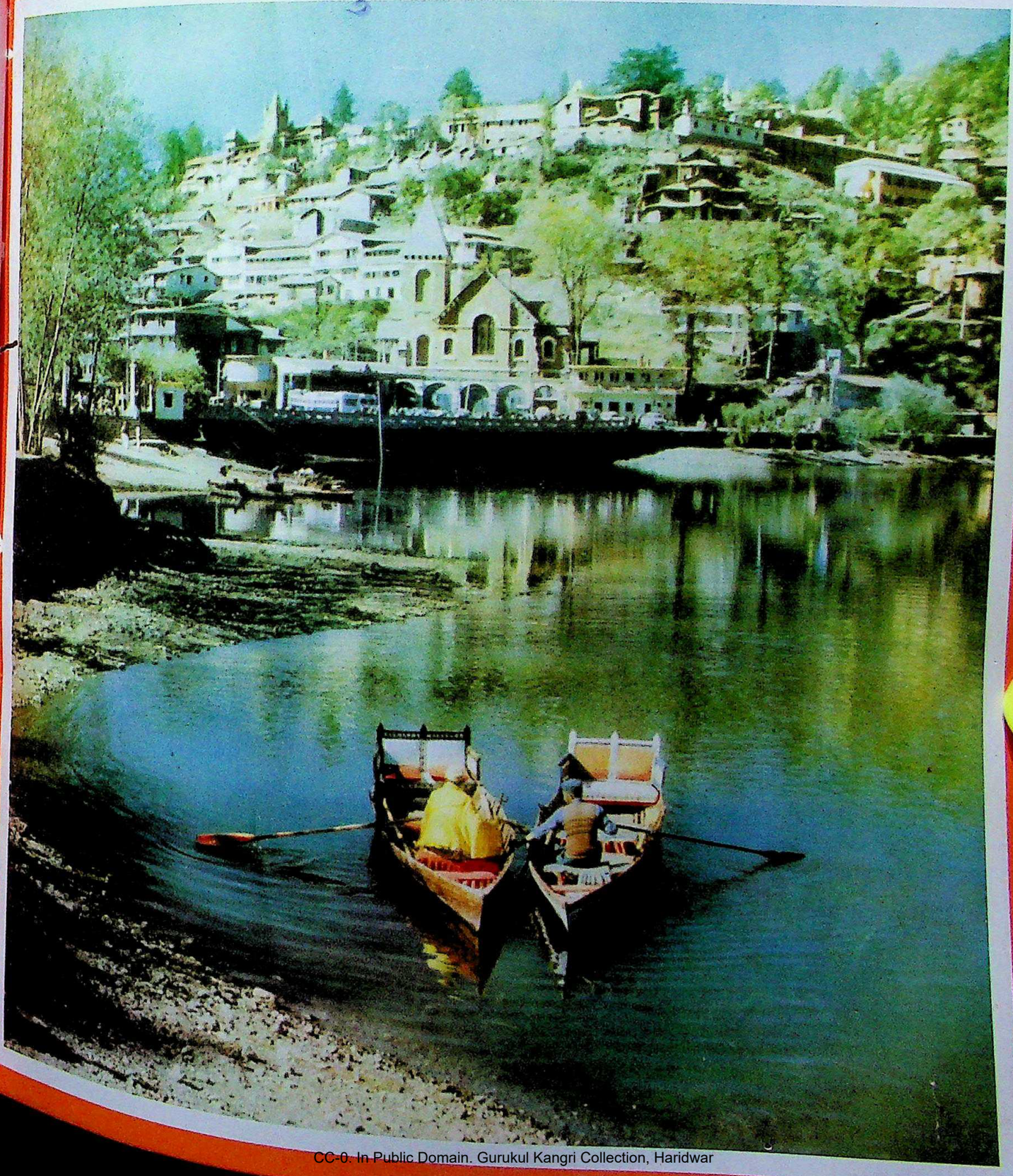

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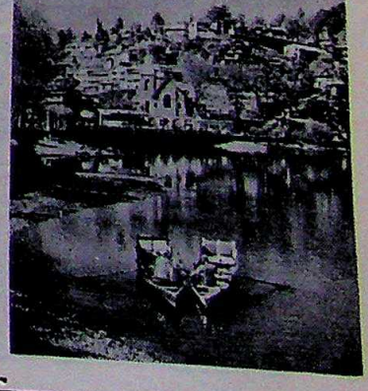

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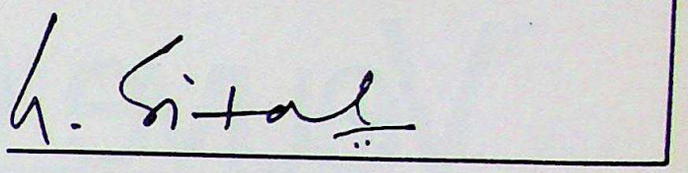
Samaiki



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The Indian is and will always remain a non-profit making project as it is our desire to devote ourselves wholly to the service of the Overseas Indians. But like every one, else, we have been caught up by the rising prices. The cost of printing and materials have pushed up our expenditure. Besides, the magazine is being serviced by an increasing number of correspondents throughout the world and our bill for their remuneration has also correspondingly risen. We are compelled therefore to review our subscription rates. Beginning from July issue, the annual subscription rates will be US$10.00 or Stg. £4/00 for overseas subscribers and HK$40.00 for local subscribers. We hope our subscribers will not mind sharing this additional load with us.

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Viewpoint

K. N. Vaid

SIKKIM

Storm in a tea cup

Sikkim is a tiny monarchy perched over the Himalayas mountains bordering India, China and Nepal. It entered into a treaty with India in 1949, wherein the security and foreign affairs of this tiny kingdom are handled by India; for all other matters, the kingdom is independent. Similar treaty existed between Sikkim and Britain prior to the Indian independence. Sikkim has an area of little over 700 sq.km., a population of 2,000,000; the ruler is married to an American and his children are in schools in the United Kingdom.

The population comprises of two groups, namely: the Bhutias and the Gorkhas. Bhutias are a minority group, but the ruler belongs to this community. The constitution of Sikkim maintains a parity between Bhutias and Gorkhas in the sense that 50 per cent government jobs are reserved for Bhutias and in order to get elected to the State Legislative Council, a Gorkha candidate must secure at least 15 per cent of Bhutia votes from the total votes polled in the constituency. Besides, Sikkimese citizenship laws are framed to the disadvantage of Gorkhas.

For the past several months, Gorkhas' political parties were agitating peacefully for legislative and administrative reforms. Recently, these two parties forged a common front, formed a Joint Action Committee and stepped up the agitation. This invited the wrath of the ruler who ordered the arrest of the J.A.C. leaders, the latter fled to the Indian Embassy and were given asylum. Thereafter, some 15000 volunteers of the J.A.C. marched to Gangtok and surrounded the palace. Communications broke down and the writ of the ruler ran only within the palace four walls. At this stage, the Maharaja asked for help of the Indian Army. Before India made a move, fighting took place between Police and volunteers and the Maharaja sent a written request to New Delhi for help. Similar request was received in writing from the J.A.C. Indian troops were despatched to Gangtok and peace restored temporarily. However, agreement could not be reached between the ruler and the J.A.C. Consequently, both parties requested India to take over administration of the State. The Indian Government, thereupon, sent a special officer to administer affairs in Sikkim. The Indian appointee has been able to restore peace. Life has returned to normalcy and agreement has been reached on basic principles of a constitution between the ruler and local parties. India has declared that she has no intentions of staying on in Sikkim, though she is not prepared to allow political chaos on her borders, particularly in the north. The Indian action has full support of the ruler and people of Sikkim as well as of Nepal and Bhutan, the two adjoining countries. China and Pakistan tried to make political capital out of the misfortunes of the Sikkimese people. But the storm was soon over and the two countries were left talking to the wall.

SINO INDIAN DISPUTE

Chou En-Lai propounds his thesis

Recently, Mr Chou En-Lai got published a long article putting forward his country's viewpoint on the border dispute between India and China. Basicaly, the Chinese position is that:

(a) the British Government drew the McMohan Line to demarcate borders between India and China unilaterally and arbitrarily,

(b) the border demarcation remained a line on paper only and it was never implemented,

(c) the British never established effective control upto the McMohan Line, it remained only upto the point which now touches the territory occupied by China, South of McMohan Line,

(d) Free India ought to have respected Chinese sentiments when the latter repeatedly asked for border readjustment, and

(e) even now, India should sit with China to redraw the border.

The Chou thesis is remarkably clear in so far as the Chinese side of the story is concerned. New Delhi is presumably studying the document. It seems likely that India will not agree to the Chinese position and will insist that the latter vacate all occupied areas (about 50,000 sq. miles) before any negotiations could be started on the subject. Quite clearly, China cannot hope to negotiate after it has actualy usurped a large chunk of territory.

Apart from this, it is for the first time that China has made its position categorically clear. Let us hope that India too puts forward her position with equal precision.

Once issues are framed clearly, discussion becomes pointed and purposive.

IS INDIA POOR?

Easier to get a wife than a job

Poverty is a mater of definition, varying in extent depending upon the yardstick one may choose to measure it. In Bombay, Delhi, Calcutta and other metropolitan cities, rice is being sold at Rs 6/- per Kilogramme and wheat flour at Rs 4/- per Kilo. No vegetable costs less than Rs 2/- per Kilo. Milk, Mutton and chicken can be bought at Rs 14/- per Kilo. Milk fetches a price of Rs 3 per litre. Price of a medium quality synthetic material shirt ranges from Rs 30 to 40, a coarse cloth sari costs Rs 25. A packet of cigarettes costs Rs. 3 and pan is sold for 20 Paise a piece. A bottle of beer is sold for Rs. 7/- and Johny Walker Whisky can be had for Rs 70/- a bottle. A 2 room basic-apartment situated 20 miles away from down town Bombay fetches a monthly rent of Rs. 300/-. A 15

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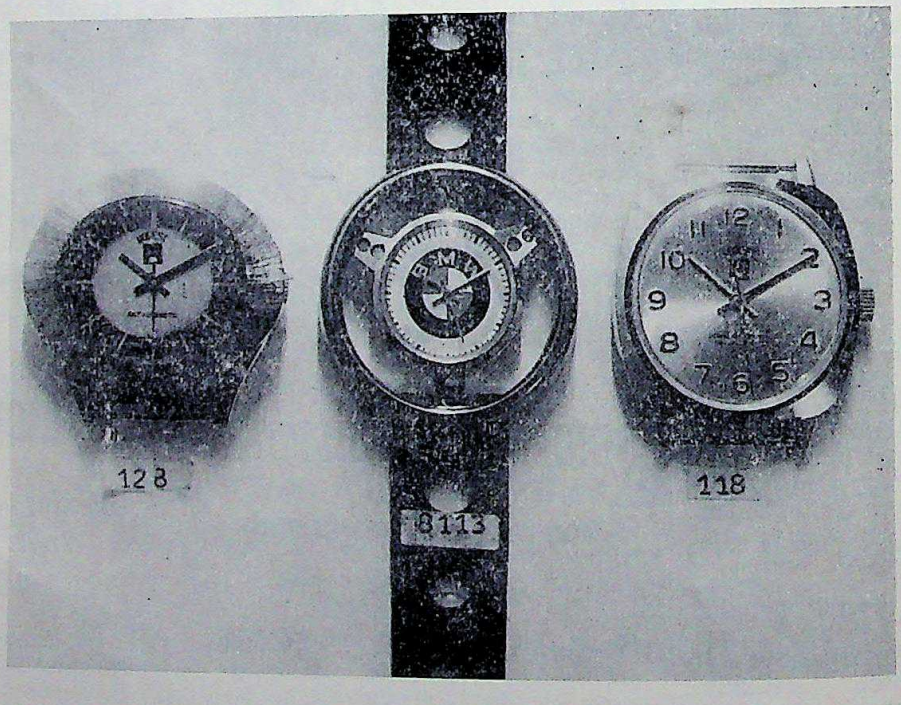

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mile train ride can be had for Rs 5/- with standing place in a first class compartment.

The prices look exhorbitant. No doubt, they are. But people pay these prices—not just the upper classes but the common man. If the common man was unable to pay these prices, one should expect to find unsold commodities in shops, unoccupied apartments, empty trains, etc. This is not the case. Every thing is in short supply and every thing gets sold at a price set by the seller. There exists an effective demand for every thing. Man in the street buys all these commodities and services at prices that compare well with London, New York, Tokyo and Hongkong. If he were poor, how could be pay such high prices?

Looked from another angle, one may read a different story. An unskilled worker takes home about Rs 5 per day, a skilled worker employed in a factory averages Rs 10/- to 12/- per working day. A Bank clerk scores about Rs 800 per month, a Babu in a Government office about Rs 500/- per month. The seniormost officers in civil services go upto Rs 4000 per month, their counterparts in business and industry net about double the amount. A school teacher in Delhi gets about Rs 600 a month and a College teacher Rs 800 at the beginning of his career. Earnings of people in India are low as compared to their counterparts abroad, but they are quite high as compared to what they were 10 years ago. And this has been achieved despite the fact that the productivity of an Indian worker is quite low in comparison to a Chinese or Japanese worker.

If we go by the spending and earnings of an average Indian, then he could hardly be considered as poor. But not everyone earns, for jobs are scarce. And whatever a man earns gets divided amongst his family members, most of whom do not work. The dependency load of an Indian is amongst the highest in the world. A man, who does well in life, soon discovers a herd of aunts, uncles and cousins, whom he never knew before.

The problem of Indian poverty really lies in shortage of goods due to less production, fewer jobs and larger families. India is not poor. It so happens that Indians have less work and they produce more babies than goods and services.

Poverty cannot be judged by earnings and spending alone.

HUMAN PAWNSHOP

Consequences of conflict

People of Indian origin have become pawns on the chess board of world politics. First it was the Asians in Uganda to be uprooted and thrown out of the country to fend for themselves as best as they could. Now, it is on the Indian sub-continent that men, women and children are being used in the chess game of politicians. Ninety three thousand Pakistanis are in detention in India, over 10,000 Indians are in Pakistani war camps. Thousands of Biharis are rotting in seclusion camps in Bangla Desh and now Bhutto has arrested all Bengalis in Pakistan and put them to suffer elements behind barbed wires. Several lakhs Tamils in Sri Lanka are living as stateless persons in the vague hope of something beter to turn up. India does not wish or like to keep Pakistani P.O.W. in detention, but she does not know how to unload them now. Mujib wants to send away Biharis to Pakistan as they do not want to live in Bangla Desh, but Pakistan does not want them. Bengalis in Pakistan want to go to Bangla Desh, but are not allowed to do so. Destitution, misery, squalor, sickness, etc. is the fate of all those involved in the unfortuniate situation. Mrs Gandhi, Mujib, Bhutto and Mrs Bandarnaike all profess to be concerned with the situation, but appear helpless to do anything about it. It was hoped that the Indo-Bangla Desh offer to Bhutto to release all prisoners may break the deadlock, but the hopes, alas, stand belied. Bhutto has responded in his typical rash style.

The issues involved are the followings:—

(a) Pakistan should recognise Bangla Desh and accept the Bangla Desh trial of selected Pakistani Army Officers.

(b) Bangla Desh and Pakistan exchange Bihari and Bengali populations.

(c) India should release all Pakistani P.O.W. except those wanted for alleged crimes in Bangla Desh and Pakistan pays India all expenses incurred so far by her on the P.O.W.

(d) India and Sri Lanka honour Indira-Srimavo pact both in letter and spirit and honestly implement all clauses of the agreement.

There is no running away from facts. Sooner or later, each of the countries involved will have to accept their respective responsibilities in the four-point problem stated above. Why make people suffer any longer?

AMERICAN RAVES ABOUT LUNGI

For beach-wear, there is nothing beter than a lungi, says an American cognoscente. Men can wear it at home. And when it comes to colour sense, there is no country to beat India, Miss Geri Tully, vice-president of the New York-based International Manufacturers' and Buyers' Guild, told Bombay newsmen.

She was referring to some of the Indian handicrafts which she saw during an inspection tour of India and Nepal. Miss Tully and her associate, Mr Max Arena, were there to prepare a shopping tour in September for 120 professional buyers from the U.S. Miss Tully is also the founder-owner of "For Women Only."

Stating that fashion in the U.S. had moved towards the "very casual," Miss Tully said the style of clothes, fabrics and jewellery in India fitted in with this trend. Though the lines were simple, the details were exquisite and the jewellery lovish in style and use.

There was need, however, for the modification of styles to suit and meet the American taste. Indian fashions were very elegant and could be translated into luxury ware only for a fraction of the cost in the U.S., she said.

Americans were interested in anything exotic and unusual that would impress their friends and neighbours. Their demands were for unique items.

The group of shoppers would comprise noted fashion designers and decorators, including Bill Blass, Oscar de la Renta and the staff of leading fashion magazines such as Vogue, she said.

Depending on the success of this tour, Miss Tully would arrange four such shopping tours a year to India.

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SPOTLIGHT ON INDIANS

Balraj Sahni
The giant among actors

B. R. Ambedkar
The Manu of Modern India

Death of a Great Actor

Balraj Sahni, a giant among actors, a leading light on the cultural scene and a thespian of the Fine Arts in the true sense of the term made his final bow on April 13 evening in Bombay.

The death of Balraj Sahni following a heart attack has removed from the domain of the screen, the stage, the radio and literature, a stalwart of whom it can be said that he adorned whatever he touched.

Versatile and learned, perceptive and painstaking, genial and unassuming, Balraj Sahni belonged to that rare genre of artistes who became a legend in their lifetime.

Born in Rawalpindi on May 1, 1913, Balraj Sahni joined films in the wake of a promising record on the stage and in the sphere of broadcasting at home and abroad. An M.A. of the Punjab University, he had worked as an announcer on the BBC in London, a teacher at Shantiniketan during Tagore's lifetime and was a crusader for the cause of Basic Education scheme at Sewagram before he plunged into the movies to be first a leading man and later on a character artist.

He was an active member of the Indian Peoples' Theatre Association (IPTA) and acted in several of its plays. He started off in K.A. Abbas' "Dharti Ke Lal" (Children of the Earth) and made a mark as an artiste par excellence in Zia Sarhadi's "Hum Log". Followed a chain of outstanding performances in a variety of character-studies that catapulted Balraj Sahni to the front rank of India's most versatile artistes.

The list is too long to be recounted in detail but among his outstanding portrayals can be mentioned Bimal Roy's "Do Bigha Zamin" which won him international recognition, "Garam Coat" made by the Cine Co-operatives which he had floated with Rajinder Singh by Amiya Chakravarty, Hrishikesh Mukherjee's Bedi and Homi Setnna, "Seema" and "Kathputli" made "Anuradha", "Sone Ki Chidiya", B.R. Chopra's "Waqt", "Kabuliwala", Rajendra Bhatia's "Pavitra Papi" and many more. Widely travelled, Balraj Sahni was a member of the Indian film delegation that visited Russia and the Cultural team that went to China.

Balraj Sahni was cremated on 14th morning. His funeral was attended by a large number of film people, political leaders and admirers.

Dr. Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar

It was Dr Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar who laid down the Constitution of a democratic, modern, republican, secular and socialist India after the transfer of power from British rule on 15 August 1947. As the then Law Minister of India (1947 to 1951), he thus immortalised himself in the ranks of the greatest constitutional lawyers of the world in playing the major role towards the framing of the Constitution of India—the largest democracy in the world.

Dr Ambedkar was born in Mahaoo, Maharashtra on 14 April 1891 and died in New Delhi on 6 December 1956. He married Ramabai in April 1906 and she died in May 1935, leaving him a son, Yashwant Rao, born in December 1912. In April 1948, Dr Ambedkar married again—Shrimati Saradha Kabir, a high caste Brahmin and medical practitioner who had often treated him.

Dr Ambedkar was a great scholar all through his academic career and soared high among the intellectual giants. He was the first Indian to return to India with a foreign degree in economics as Doctor of Science from the London School of Economics and Political Science. Perhaps he is the only Indian to hold a DSc in economics from this reputed school. He was a thinker, political philosopher and genius of rare originality and versatility. His authoritative books are on many subjects including anthropology, sociology, economics, philosophy, religion, politics, history, military science and law. No wonder he has been acclaimed as one of the six best brains of India.

Dr Ambedkar played many significant and varied roles in Indian social and political life; starting as a leader of the down-trodden masses he rose to be a nation-builder, national leader, educationist, jurist and statesman of premier rank. From the position of a practising lawyer, he elevated himself to the enviable status of the Father of the Indian Republican Constitution—a status which is offered only once in the lifetime of a nation. His services to the country and to humanity in general are unforgettable. A revolutionary politician and social emancipator who preached the message of the Buddha.

During the Second World War, Dr Ambedkar was made a member of the Viceroy's Council and was assigned the Labour portfolio. In 1948 after the Independence of India, Prime, Minister Jawaharlal Nehru included him in free Indias first Cabinet as Minister of Law and the Chairman of the Constitution Drafting Committee.

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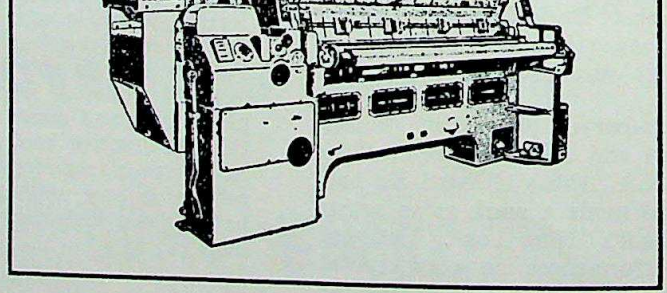

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Why Africans Tolerate Indians

by Kul Bhushan

If Indians were hated in East Africa, 40,000 of them would not have got out alive from Uganda last year after General Amin's marching orders.

Despite the orders expelling them, and charges levied against them, the common civilian Ugandan remained friendly towards them till the very end. I know dozens of instances of Ugandan Africans helping out the departing Indians in many ways.

"We should thank the goodwill we had built up with the common man over the years," a social worker told me in Nairobi. "Otherwise they would have all been butchered."

In Kenya, the Indian contribution in the fight for Uhuru is history. And it did not start when freedom was just round the corner.

It started with Mr M. A. Desai who came here in 1915 and continued in the late twenties when Mr Isher Dass accompanied President Jomo Kenyatta to England and introduced him to Mahatma Gandhi.

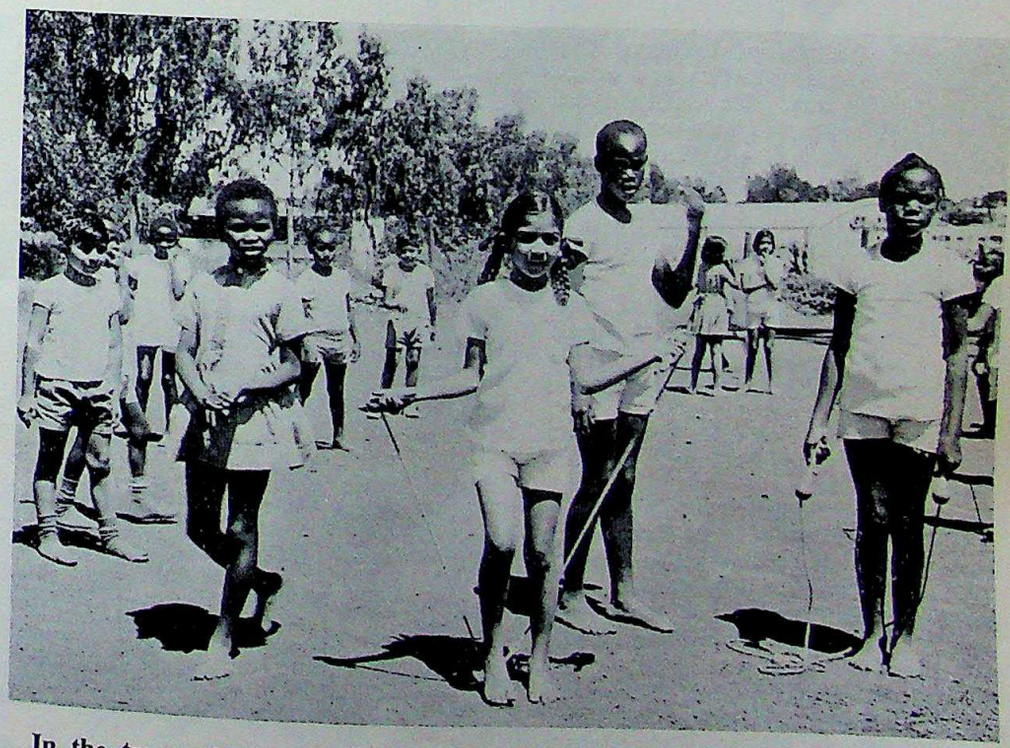
In the forties, came a whole group of dedicated Indian leaders who championed the cause of equal human rights and thus the African struggle. This group includes, Mr Pio Pinto, Mr Justice Chanan Singh, Mr Makhan Singh and Dr F. R. S. DeSouza. Mr Pinto helped to organise African movements, Mr Justice Chanan Singh fought legal battles for the Africans and later headed the Kenya Freedom Party to fight for majority African rule and Mr Makhan Singh, an unrivalled Union leader, stayed in detention with President Kenyatta for no less than eleven years.

Dr DeSouza helped in maintaining Indo-African contacts in fifties and became free Kenya's first Deputy Speaker.

Published by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in January 1973, 'Kenya-An-Official Handbook' (published January, 1973) highlights the Indian contribution to the freedom fight in the following words:

"The Indian Congress also played a vigorous role in Kenya's party evolution. Although patterned after the South African Indian Congress, it worked in close collaboration with the Congress party in India, with whose support it championed the cause of human equality, the right to representation in the Legislative

Not permitted to farm, not permitted to teach or preach to Africans not permitted to live and trade in the 'African Reserves' under the British Raj, the Indians had only one resort: to set up 'dukas' (shops) in the townships, all of which invariably started with the Indian Bazaar like this one in Nairobi shown here. Ever since the Kenya Government introduced Trade Licensing, some 'Dukawallas' have gone in for small scale industrial enterprises. Many of them still continue to trade and prosper because they are Kenya citizens. (Picture: Natwar Chudasama)



In the tremendous expansion of the country's education services, the Asian children have also done well. By dint of their hard work and good results they have secured places in secondary schools and scholarships at the University of Nairobi as most of them are Kenya citizens. (Picture Natwar Chudasama.)

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Council, and an end to racial discrimination in commercial and residential facilities in Kenya.

"The Indian Congress worked closely with the African associations of the day (of which the East African Association, the Kikuyu Central Association and Kavirondo Taxpayers Welfare Association were the most significant) and by so doing, promoted incipient African nationalism of the period."

The book goes on to record that the activities of the Congress climaxed in the early 1920's and were instrumental in sending a delegation which led the British Government to publish a White Paper on Indians also referred to as the Devonshire White Paper which declared that Kenya was an African country and in all future conflicts between African and immigrant interests, the African interest should prevail.

And Kenyans have not forgotten. That goodwill remains to this day. On 12 December, 1972, the Jamhuri (Republic) Day of Kenya, The Minister for State in the Office of the President, Mr Mbiyu Koinange, who is one of the Ministers closest to the President, paid a glowing tribute to the Indians in Kenya.

Addressing a 4,000 strong crowd at this meeting held by the Deen Bandhu Samaj of Nairobi, Mr Koinange said, "What was started by Mahatma Gandhi, by Pandit Nehru, the true friendship of the people of India and Africa, are we going to destroy it because of one man?"

He said friendship between the people of India and Africa had existed for 2,000 years. He had in mind the ancient contacts between India and Africa which the Indian sailors developed by using the monsoon winds.

He reiterated that Indians had helped to build the railway at the turn of the century and developed East Africa. Indian Africans had worked together to build the country and fought together for independence.

"The Nairobi we have today has been built by the Indians," he declared.

"The people who came here, took active part in developing the country from Mombasa to any part so that the whole of East Africa was developed where the people from India who came and took part in developing the country sincerely. I say that, I use the word 'sincerely' and that again is very true," he said amid thunderous applause.

He quoted President Kenyatta's message to the nation of showing a spirit of 'give and take' and commented, "If I have been living in the spirit of 'give and take', I'll not be saying perhaps 'I'm next'. 'What next'?

"Anybody who is a true citizen must never think of himself as next. He or she, irrespective of the place of origin, whether from Jigo, Masai or Alaska or any part of the world ... where he or she has been actually identified ... that is the place ... that is the home of that particular person."

"Recently, many things have taken place and the people who have lost have been shaking and those who are enabled to remove their money by camouflage say 'I'm next', I cannot build that building because I'm next' and 'Where are you planning to go?'

"I repeat where you are, do what you can, live by action live and obey for ever," he said in an emotional speech which breathed new life into the whole community after the Uganda crisis.

The Indian control of the local economy is a fallacy which the western mass media has persistently promoted. The Indians' tragedy is that they are in the distributive trade, they are visible in great numbers on the main streets because they are shopkeepers or 'dukanwallas'.

Retail trade constitutes hardly ten percent of the gross economic activity. Who controls the big business? ..... The banks, the insurance companies, the oil companies, the manufacturing units, the agricultural processing plants, the lending houses? The Europeans, in every case.

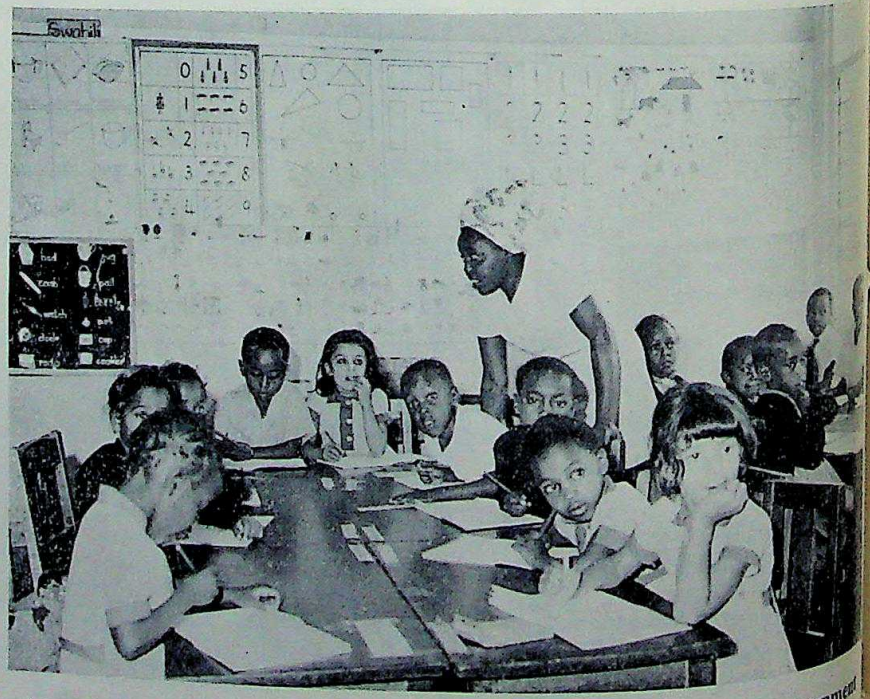
Indians do not own everything. Towards the end of colonial rule the whites owned 11,000 acres in Nairobi city compared to only 3,000 owned by the Indians, although Indians were three times the Europeans in number.

Who owned the choice farm acerages of the "White" Highlands? Not the Indians, they were prohibited by law until uhuru from owning any farming land. These were the White settlers. Their doyen was the English bankrupt who ran way from his debtors in Britain and came to Kenya to fence 11,000 acres of the best farming land around Nakuru and became Lord Delamere.

Not permitted to farm, not permitted to teach or preach to Africans, not permitted to live or trade in African "Reserves" under the colonial rule, the Indians had only one resort to set up shop in the townships.

And today the western press criticises them for keeping themselves aloof during all those decades!

During the Mau Mau days, the Europeans were heavily armed. The Indians were three times in number and were hardly given any arms at all. Living in remote 'dukas' in the bush, they could all be wiped out in a night. Only the goodwill they had generated saw them through as the



Learning to live together in Uhuru: from the early sixties the Government smashed down the racial barriers in learning, and children of all races have integrated smoothly in Kenya's education system. The record of integration in Kenya's schools and colleges is unblemished and has done the nation proud. (Picture: Natwar Chudasama).

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figures given in Corfield Report on Mau Mau show that 32 whites were killed as compared to 26 Indians.

The first Indian High Commissioner to Kenya, Mr Apa Pant was also given "an honourable" mention in that Report for helping the freedom fighters. Harry Thuku, another great African patriot, pays glowing tribute to Indian traders' contribution in freedom fight in his autobiography.

And on the quit notices to Non-Citizen traders, it is now an accepted policy of the Government. The process is orderly and notices are appealable. Every country is committed to looking after its citizens first and the Non-Citizens (Indian) accept this.

But the unreported story in world press is that of the Citizen Asian trader. He frankly admits that the profits in the last decade have surpassed all his profits for the previous five decades.

After the last batch of quit notices in January this year, East Africa's leading weekly 'Sunday Nation' wrote the following editorial comment:

"Kenya citizenship must be seen to be impersonal and equally to protect all those whom Government has solemnly pledged to protect.

"It is, however, important that successors to those who have been denied licences should understand that the businessmen, especially Asians, have set an example of excellence in their different commercial activities.

"They are leaving, not because they have failed, but because political circumstances have changed. Many of the aspirants to business should learn from Asians. In most cases, the Asians started in humble circumstances, saving large proportions of what had been earned, concentrated on projects until they saw them through, having tenacity of purpose and singlemindedness which was only equalled by their self-confidence.

"We commend this attitude of mind to the indigenous and other citizens who will eventually replace foreigners in the various business sectors. Above all, we commend the departing traders for the role they have played in the development of the Kenya economy.

"Although many of those concerned have either died or left Kenya, it is worth mentioning that some of the early Asians deserve credit for their stand on human rights in the early 'Twenties and early 'Thirties".

"At that time, both Kenya and India were under the British Raj. Asians in Kenya wrote to Asians in India, telling the latter to agitate for the rights of their brethren and Africans in Kenya. This they did with the utmost vigour, securing concession after concession from the Colonial office, who did not wish to disturb the equilibrium in India and had therefore to appease the Indians congress.

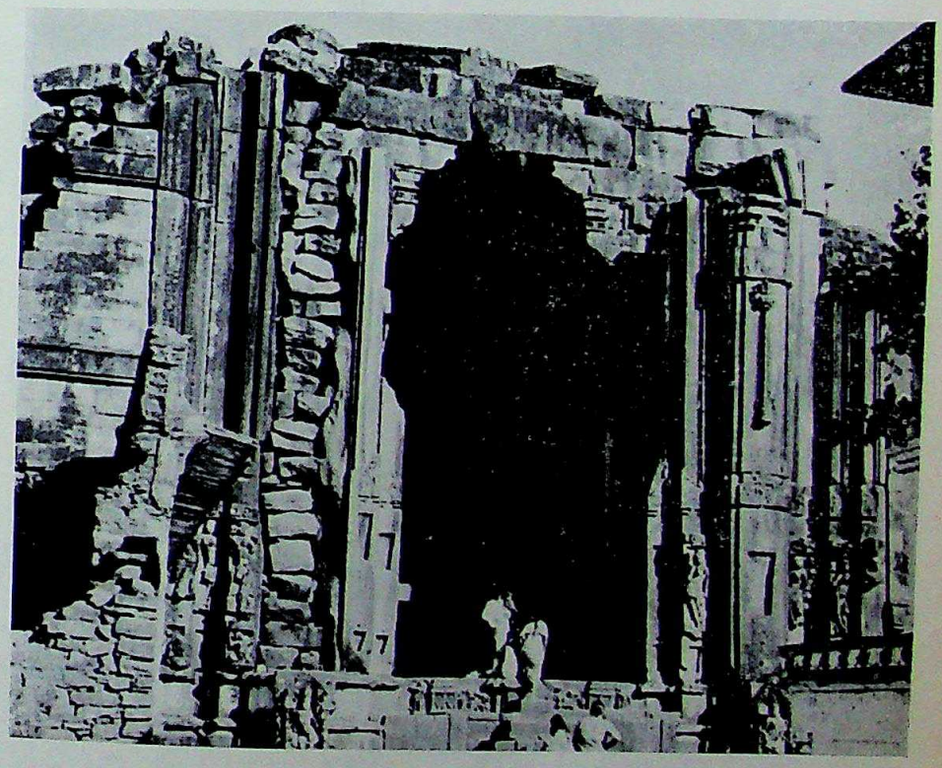
"Although the atmosphere in Africa these days has not allowed for these kinds of reminiscences, it is only fair that again we should pay tribute to those concerned, and their posterity."

SHIVA TEMPLE, BHOJPUR

Resembling a tumble-down stone structure, the famous Shiva temple at Bhojpur, in Central India, attracted one of the biggest religious congregations in the country during Shivratri, as it does every year.

Whatever its actual ancientness, the temple looks very ancient, and dilapidated. Therefore, it is happy news that the Archaeological Survey of India has commenced work on the temple's reclamation and repair. Thanks to the munificence of the Birla-run Hindustan Charity Trust, adequate funds are now available for the job.

The temple was erected by the crudite King Bhoj (10-10-1055) of Dhar. The huge Shiva Linga inside is carved out of a single stone. The superb structure and facade of the temple as well as its sculptural elegance caught the eye of Dr Rajendra Prasad in 1954. The late President expressed a desire for reclamation of the temple and beautification of its environs.



Shiva Temple, Bhojpur, Central India.

The King of Dhar favoured this spot in the fastuesses of Vindhyas because of its natural beauty. After the King's name, the place was called Bhojpur. Taking advantage of the surrounding hills and the natural catchment area of score of streams, Raja Bhoj constructed a vast dam for irrigation. The area of the dam exceeded 200 square miles. But the cavalcade of history brought many changes in its train.

Hoshang Shah, Ruler of Malwa, destroyed the temple in his iconoclastic zeal. He also broke the dam and emptied the vast reservoir which took three years to dry up. But subsequently a benign and tolerant ruler by the name of Ghous Mohammed made it punishable for any one, Hindu or Muslim, who would harm the temple in any way. Thus the Shiva temple owes its preservation in no small measure to a Muslim ruler—a lesser known secular leaf out of Indian history.

— Arvind Bhandari

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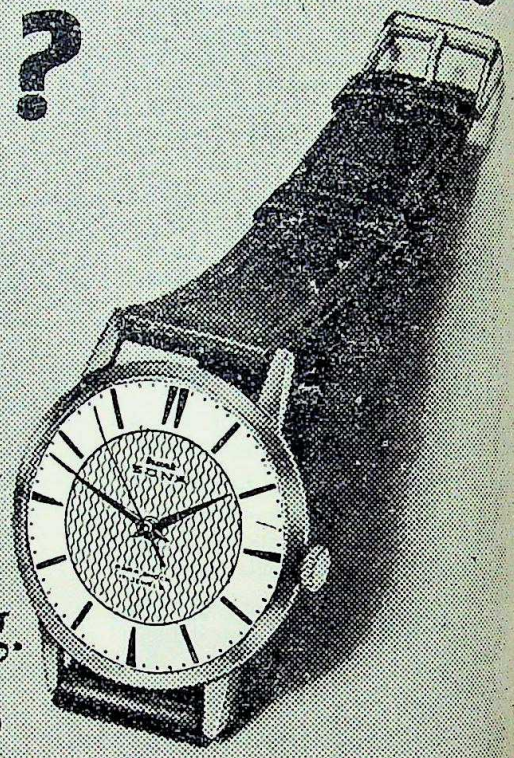

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Namdhari Sikhs

The Namdhari sect of the Sikhs was founded by Balak Singh (1797-1862)—the son of a goldsmith of village Sarvala, in the North-West Frontier—who later shifted his business to Hazro. He was inspired by the sermons of Bhagat Jawahar Mal, who preached the virtues of poverty and denounced the rich as godless. Balak Singh exhorted his followers to live simply and not to practise any ritual but to repeat only God's name. Hence his followers are called Namdharis.

Before Balak Singh died, he chose Ram Singh, a carpenter, as his successor. Ram Singh, who was born in 1816 at Bhaini, 16 miles from Ludhiana, joined the Sikh Durbar's artillery. He met Balak Singh when his unit was posted to the Frontier. When the unit was disbanded after the first Anglo-Sikh War (1845-46), Ram Singh came to live at Hazro. Subsequently, on the annexation of Punjab, he returned to Bhaini, resumed his family trade and preached Balak Singh's message.

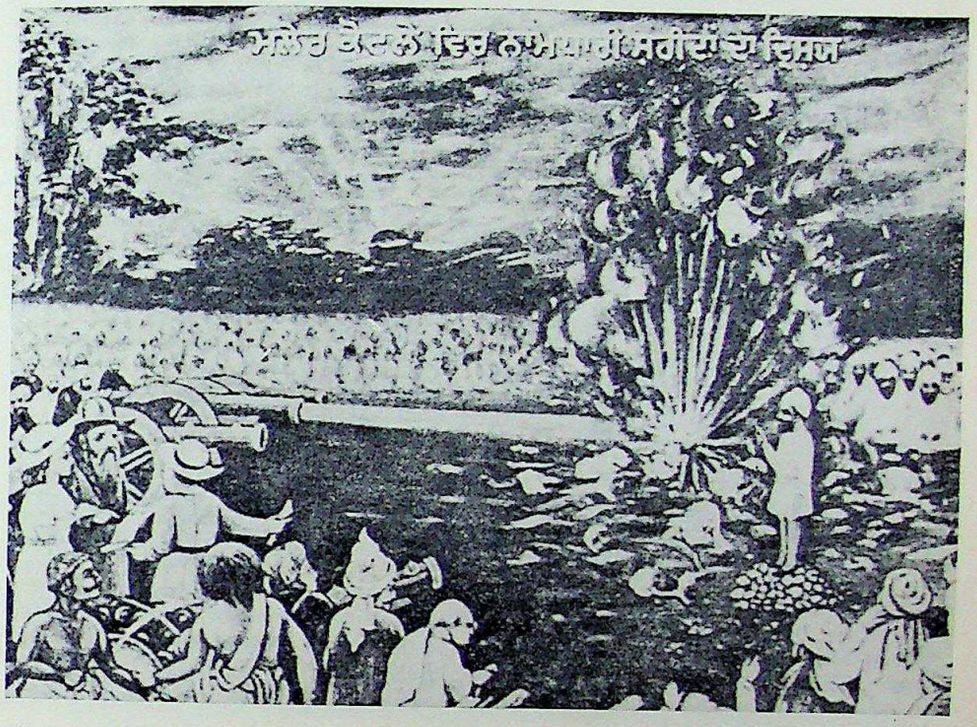
The 12th Incarnation

The Namdharis believe that Ram Singh was the 12th incarnation of Guru Gobind Singh. They claim that Guru Gobind Singh had prophesied the birth of "a carpenter belonging to Bhaini, who will be the most perfect and the greatest, possessed of tremendous spiritual power with none other to excel. The sect to which the Guru will belong will be honoured. I bow before the 12th incarnation of the Sikhs."

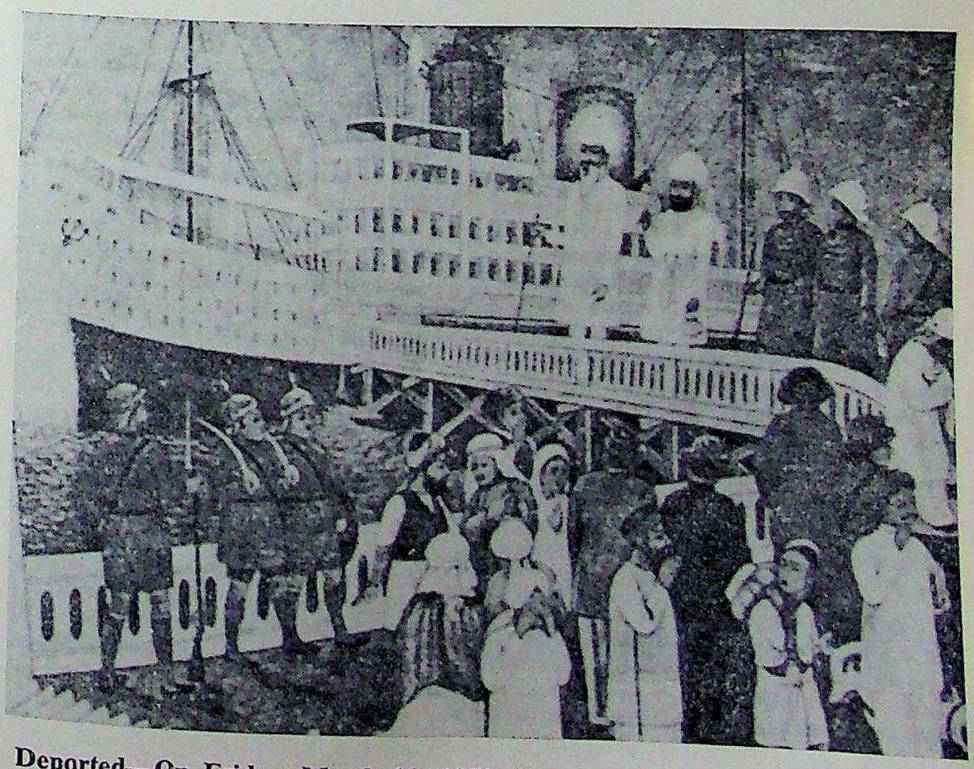
Ram Singh strictly forbade spending more than Rs 13 on a wedding. Thus the Namdhari mass wedding is probably the simplest, quickest and least expensive way to get married in India. The ceremony is made up of Hindu and Sikh rites. The couples go round the sacrificial fire four times.

Ram Singh introduced changes in the forms of worship and address, besides appearance, to distinguish his followers from orthodox Sikhs. His disciples picked up the chant of his hymns, repeated it endlessly and, like "dancing dervishes', worked themselves into a state of frenzy and emitted kuks (loud shrieks). That is how they came to be known as Kukas.

Most of Ram Singh's disciples came from the poorer classes—Ramgarhias, Jats, cobblers and Mazhbis. He had separate gurdwaras built for them and appointed subas (governors) who col-



Namdhari Martyrs—On January 17, 1872, a batch of 125 Kukas attacked Malerkotla. In an encounter with the State Constabulary, 68 Kukas were captured. Of these, 66 were summarily blown off by tying them to the mouth of cannons.



Deported—On Friday, March 11, 1872, Ram Singh and 11 of his followers were deported to Burma. Following the attack on Malerkotla, the Kuka headquarters at Bhaini was searched. A few kirpans, hatchets and a pair of ornamental khukris were found.

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lected funds which were remitted to Bhaini. The Kukas trained themselves in the use of weapons and established a paramilitary organisation.

Ram Singh became an ardent protector of the cow. Fed on talk of a Sikh resurgence, the Kukas picked on the issue of protection of cows, which barely touched the sentiment of the Sikh masses. Some fanatics murdered Muslim butchers in Amritsar and Raikot in the Ludhiana district. Eight Kukas were hanged and others sentenced to life imprisonment for these crimes.

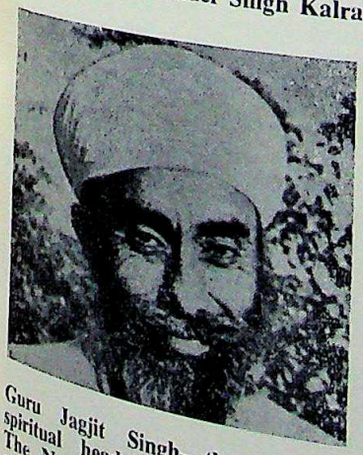
Unconvinced by their Guru's call for peace, a gang of Kukas attacked Malerkotla, a Muslim State, where the slaughter of kine was permitted. They raided a Sikh zamindar's house for arms. The zamindar's retainers retaliated; and later, when the gang entered Malerkotla, they were engaged by the State Constabulary. When L. Cowan joined the pursuit, 68 Kukas were captured. Of these, 66 were blown up, without any formality, by tying them to the mouths of cannons.

After a search of the Kuka headquarters at Bhaini, where kirpans, hatchets and ornamental khukris were found, Ram Singh and 11 of his followers were arrested and deported to Burma.

Ram Singh died in Rangoon in 1885. His son Hari Singh, who succeeded him, was not allowed to move out of Bhaini for the 21 years he was Guru.

The current spiritual head of the Namdharis is Guru Jagjit Singh. They believe he is the 16th incarnation. The Namdharis claim a following running up to 10 lakhs. They are concentrated in the districts of Hissar, Amritsar and Ludhiana.

—Jay Inder Singh Kalra.



Guru Jagjit Singh—the current spiritual head of the Namdharis. The Namdharis believe he is the 16th incarnation. The Namdhari gurus have been good cattle breeders. Jagjit Singh's father, Pratap Singh, was also a racehorse owner. The Namdharis claim a following of anything up to 10 lakhs.

Courting Arrest—On January 17, 1872, Ram Singh left Bhaini to court arrest under the Bengal Regulation Act III of 1818. He chose Hari Singh as his successor and gave instructions to his brother, Budh Singh, regarding the Kuka movement.

Ban Cow Slaughter!—Kuka fanatics murdered some Muslim butchers and their families in Amritsar and Rakot (Ludhiana). For these crimes, 8 Kukas were hanged and others sentenced to long terms of imprisonment.

(Courtesy: The Illustrated Weekly of India.)

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The betel chewers of India

A 1600-year-old practice, its aim is to give the chewer sexual vigour and virility.

"Her eyes are pink-tinged as though they have eaten a tamboola," says a romantic Indian composer, describing the intoxicated eyes of Radha, the feminine archetype of Hindu mythology who, as Radharani, has become the beauteous heroine of the worldwide Hare Krishna cult.

In the romantic lore of India, the tamboola—a small package of spices and fragrant condiments wrapped up artistically in a heart-shaped betel leaf has found everlasting fame and importance. It is an institution which is most subtly and deeply entrenched in the romance that is India, in the love cults of its people, in their religious and social rituals and even in their day-to-day lives.

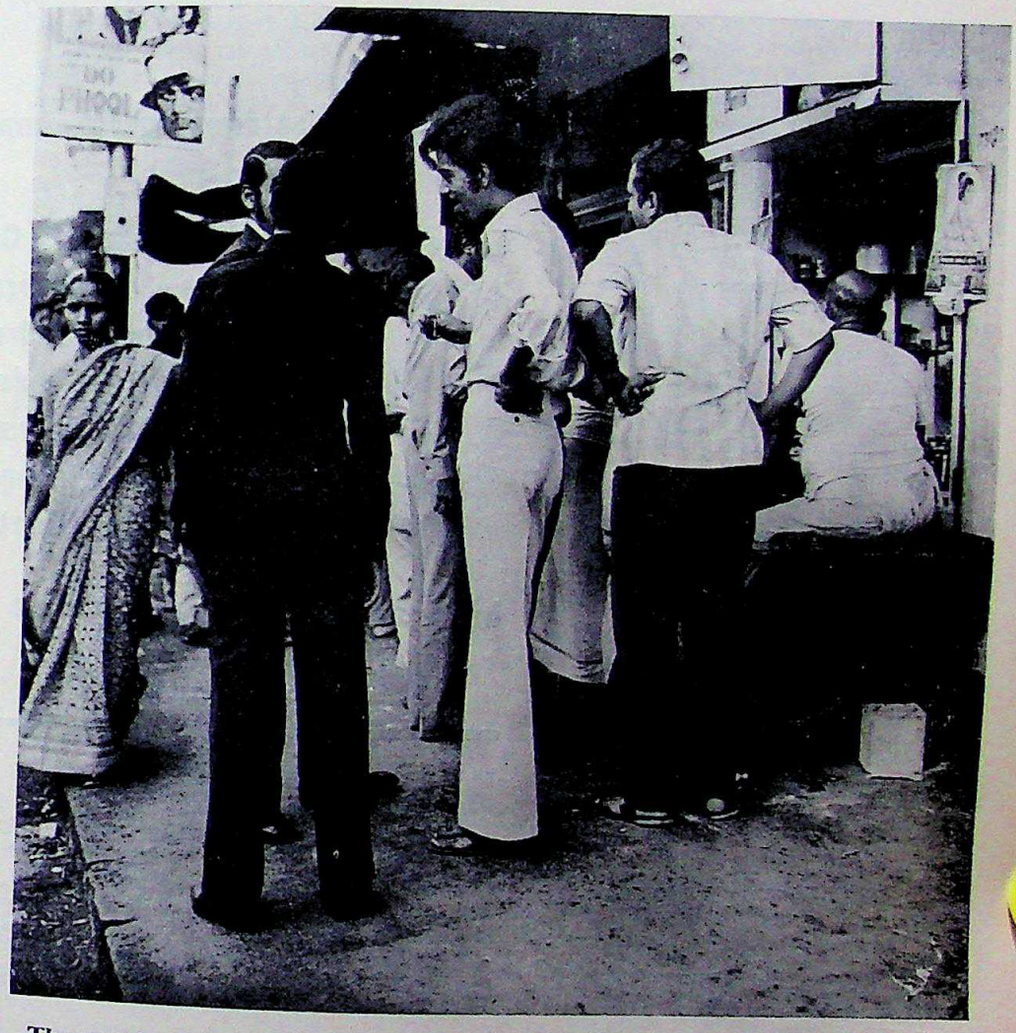
Rich and poor, Indians have lovingly chewed the tamboola, or paanpatti as it has been called in more recent times, for nearly 1600 years. They have credited it with magical powers, the power to enhance sexual desire, to intensify the beauty of women, to heal a number of diseases and finally, to purify and freshen the breath of the chewer.

by
Vimla Patil

First referred to in rock inscriptions of the fourth century A.D., the paan-chewing habit of the Indian has been noticed and chronicled by numerous travellers who visited the courts of the emperors, kings and nawabs of the centuries past. Marco Polo, it is said, was the first among these to write in his travellogues: "The people of India have a habit of keeping in their mouth a certain leaf called the tambul." Sir Thomas Roe, the British ambassador who came to Jehangir's court and recorded many an observation for the curious historian, wrote: "It bytts in the mouth, cocles the head, strengthens the teeth . . . and in times, coloures the teeth which is esteemed a beauty."

Not only Jehangir, but all his royal ancestors and descendants were avid betel eaters and connoisseurs of the art of the tamboola. At the height of the Mughal glory, and before them during the golden age of India's Hindu kings, the rulers had a special retinue of attendants to bear the finely carved, filligreed silver and gold boxes, which had compartments to accommodate the tender leaves of betel, the scented-betel nut, cloves, cardamoms, candied rose petals, fragrant coconut dust, saffron, musk and other condiments which went to make the royal tamboola fit for the emperors. Apart from its coveted position in the cuisine of palaces, the betel leaf was a valued gift, often sent by kings to their friends abroad. It is recorded in history that Aurangzeb the Mughal emperor, wishing to placate Shah Abbas, the King of Persia, who threatened his empire, sent to his court an influential ambassador—but also separately sent a parcel of betel leaves, making sure that they arrived in Persia as fresh as possible.

The Panwala



The panshop to an Indian is what a pub is for an Englishman or a beergarden to a German.

Apart from its prestigious association with royalty, the leaf of the 'Naag Vel' or snake creeper has its own aura of romance and mystery. The Skandapurana, one of the eighteen mythological storehouses of the Hindus, narrates an interesting story about its origin and its qualities: Mohini, a beautiful heavenly damsel, it says, was put in charge of distributing nectar by the gods. She inadvertently left the remainder near the elephant Nagaraja, belonging to Indira, the King of the Heavens. In time a creeper grew out of the nectar pot which held all the gods under its magical spell. Vishnu, one of the Hindu Trinity of Gods, had the divine doctor, Dhanvantari, analyse the leaves and finding their aphrodisiac

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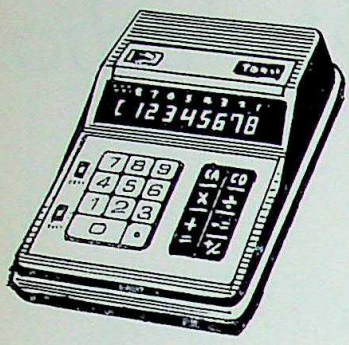

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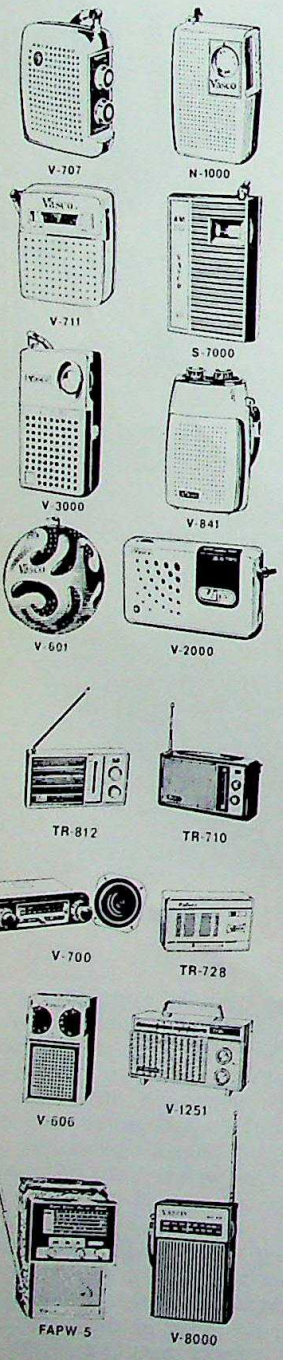

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effect, offered them as presents to all his friends. Other Sanskrit classics mention the thirteen qualities of the tamboola. The 18th century book Yogaratnakara describes it as pungent, bitter, heat-producing, sweet, salty and like alum. It mentions that it cures gastric conditions, removes worms, cures colds, cleans the mouth and is an aphrodisiac. The Brihadsamhita of Varahamihira, another classic, is its more romantic in description: "A tamboola creates erotic desire, enhances the appearance of a person, increases beauty and love, makes the mouth fragrant and creates sexual energy." The classics also lay down the ingredients for a tamboola in detail: "The leaf of the snake creeper should be taken with betel nut, katha (a bitter, brown substance), chunam (lime) camphor, kasturi (musk), clove, nutmeg, and tobacco."

Although asociated with India, the practice of chewing the 'betel leaf packet' is also found in Indo China, Sumatra, Malaya, Maldives, Nicobar and South Arabia. Perhaps during the Gupta Age (320 to 490 A.D.) trade must have caused the import of spices and export of the leaves together causing the Tamboola formula to become common to all the countries concerned. This is further corroborated by the fact that the word 'tamboola' is of austro-asiatic origin. But other sources mention the practice as entirely Indian and trace its importance in Tantric cults and Hindu rituals.

Throughout history, the betel leaf has enjoyed a triple role in India. In Hindu religious ritual, the paan and the supari are always offered to the deity worshipped, and to the guests invited to the function. No religious charity is complete until a pair of these green leaves and a betel nut is placed over it. In social affairs, the tamboola or bida is equaly important. In the palaces of yore, special women were employed as bearers of decorative boxes of tamboolas to be offered to royal guests, courtiers, learned men and women, teachers and respected elders as a mark of esteem.

Even today, at Hindu weddings and other socio-religious occasions, a pair of leaves with a betal nut are distributed to all invitees. In a smaller family context, the paan has tremendous importance. A Hindu child, at two and half months is given a bida according to a popular custom. Women give away bidas to their women friends around Sankranti, a festival of special significance to women, which comes every year on the 14th of January. The gift symbolises their goodwill toward each other and the wish for the well being of the husband.

What has however provoked international interest in paan chewing is its most intriguing aspect of being an aphrodisiac and an inevitable item in Indian erotica. This is the aspect that enchants men and women who yearn for romance even in the hurtling, forward-rushing twentieth century. In most of India's books on the art of love-making such as the famed Kamasutra, the tamboola has found a mention. Witness this translation of a Sanskrit verse in which a lover asks his beloved for a tamboola: "Sweetheart, bring me a tamboola which creates desire in me just like a look from your lovely eyes, which can be held in my first just like your slender waist which my nails can play with just as with your swelling breasts, which, intense like your love-filled heart, which is erotic like your slim body and which is delicious like your luscious lips."

This elaborate request is typical of Sanskrit poetry. But even today, when lovers can hardly spare enough time for the preamble to courting and love-making, the paan still holds its romantic sway over loves. Wives still suggestively offer the tamboola to the husband after a sumptuous dinner. Singing girls and the more cultured prostitutes also follow the custom of offering their affluent clients elaborately made tamboolas in which, it is said, they put herbs and condiments to increase their virility and sexual energy.

Perhaps it is on this dubious reputation that the whole industry of the paan-seller is based in India. Everyday, trainloads of the leaves—in varieties which are named either according to their place of origin or the process they go through before being marketed—arrive in various cities of India for consumption. Huge crops are grown in Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Bihar and Kerala. Some of the names are picturesque: Benarasi, Calcutta, Mughai, Jagannathi, Mahoba and Poona. And the paan has travelled wherever Indians have. Figures show that thousands of kilograms of betel leaves are exported annually from India to countries outside.

In recent decades paan-eating has become a 'vice' peculiar to the Indian. It has been shorn of the elaborate ritual involved in its making. For an office-goer prefers to buy a ready-made paanpatti which a busy vendor might sell by the hundreds each day. Most of them are priced at a mere 20 to 50 paise. Only some expert paan-sellers are reputed to sell tamboolas at Rs 50 or even Rs 100 made with "rare and costly ingredients which promise virility and sexual vigour."

Despite this commercialisation, scratch any Indian deeply enough, and you will certainly find that the paan is inextricably linked with romance in his heart. It is the expression of an Indian lover's colourful personality.

BIRLAS MAY SOON OVERTAKE TATAS

The latest figures available with the Department of Company Affairs show that the Tatas and the Birlas continue to be the fastest growing and most profitable groups among the larger industrial houses.

In 1970-71, the gross assets of the Tatas rose to a new high of Rs 711 crores. The Birlas were close behind with Rs 687.38 crores. The Birla group is growing faster than the Tatas and may ultimately overtake the latter.

In 1970-71, the Birla assets grew by Rs 40.34 crores, against Rs 29.95 crores for the Tatas.

In terms of sales and profits, the Birlas maintained their lead over the Tatas. The sales of the group aggregated Rs 633.46 crores and Rs 717.65 crores respectively in 1969-70 and 1970-71. The Tatas had a sales turnover of Rs 556.24 crores and Rs 678.79 crores respectively in these two years.

The pre-tax profits of the Birlas rose from Rs 51.6 crores to Rs 61.58 crores between 1969-70 and 1970-71. The profits of the Tatas rose much more sharply, from Rs. 32.78 crores to Rs 53.57 crores.

One of the larger industrial houses, Bird-Heilgers, suffered an actual fall in gross assets in this period from Rs 86.58 crores to Rs 84.39 crores. Little progress was made by other big houses like the ACC, Shriram, Kilachand and Walchand all of whom recorded an increase in gross assets by less than Rs 3 crores.

In regard to profits in terms of percentage of paid-up capital, the Shriram (DCM) group was head and shoulder amove all all other houses in 1969-70 and 1970-71. In the latter year, the group's pre-tax profits at Rs. 8.25 crores came to something like 125 per cent of the paid-up capital. Performance of the Birlas was only 43 per cent and of the Tatas 37 per cent.

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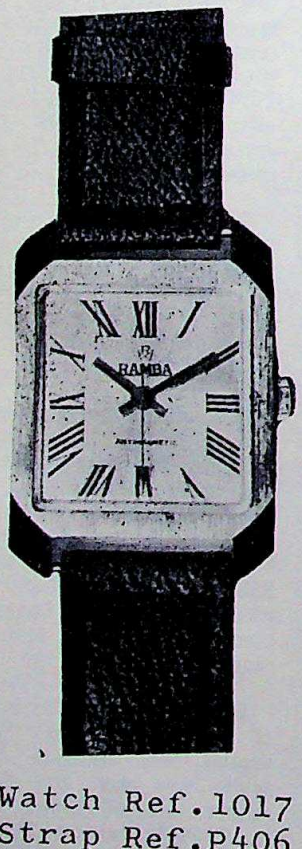

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Trade & Industry

Export Trade Growing

In 1970-71 India exported goods worth Rs 15,351 million, of which non-traditional goods accounted for Rs 6,383 million or about 41.6 per cent of the total. The share of principal non-traditional goods in the exports was 39.4 per cent in 1969-70 and 36.1 per cent in 1968-68 compared with 24.2 per cent in 1965-66.

With the rising tempo of industralisation in the country, more and more non-traditional Indian items are being exported now. Quality control and preshipment inspection are also applicable to most of these items, so that export promotion measures are placed on a stable and sound footing.

The principal non-traditional items exported are iron ore, engineering goods, leather footwear, iron and steel, handicrafts, fish and fish products, chemical and allied products, chemical and allied products, sugar, cotton, textiles, mineral fuels and lubricants, ferro-manganese and ferroalloys, wood and cork manufactures, paper and paper board products, fabrics of art silk and synthetic fibres, plastic goods and handloom silk fabrics.

These items are exported to almost all the continents. The countries to which they are exported include Japan, Iran, Thailand, Iraq, Burma, Hongkong, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Kuwait and Singapore in Asia; Czechoslovakia, Rumania, Belgium, Yugoslavia, Italy, France, the United Kingdom, the USSR, Federal Republic of Germany, German Democratic Republic and Switzerland in Europe; the Sudan, Egypt and Nigeria in Africa, and the United States of America.

Figures for the export of principal non-traditional items showed an increase from Rs 5,566 million in 1970-71, recording an increase of about 14.7 per cent. Engineering goods registered an increase of 26.9 per cent in 1970-71 over that of 1969-70, sugar 19.0 per cent, chemicals and allied products 7.2 per cent, mineral fuels and lubricants 3.1 per cent, footwear of leather and canvas 2.2 per cent, and ferro-manganese and ferro-alloys 1.8 per cent.

Important indigenous raw materials required for export production in engineering, chemicals and other industrial units are allocated on a priority basis. Several units have been alowed import of machinery and equipment for improving the quality of their products and for increased production of exports.

Registered companies, co-operative societies and federations, with a sound financial base and experience in the field of export trade, with minimum annual export performance of non-traditional products could be recognised as export houses for eligibility of government assistance for a wide range of their activities.

There are export promotion councils which secure active association of producers and exporters in the country's drive for export promotion. Some of these are export promotion councils for chemicals, engineering, plastic and linoleum products, finished leather and leather manufactures and gems and jewellery. Several councils have regional centres at important places in India and in a few foreign countries.

The public sector undertakings are making significant contribution to promoting and diversifying export trade.

The State Trading Corporation of India has played a key role in promoting long-term exports of new items and in generally assisting private trade to export difficult-to-sell items. It is exporting non-traditional items like chemicals and allied products, engineering goods, minted coins, coin blanks, footwear and leather manufactures. Major items of export handled by the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation of India are iron ore, manganese ore, ferro-manganese and coal.

The Handicrafts and Handlooms Exports Corporation of India undertakes export of handicrafts and handloom products.

The non-traditional goods have shown commendable progress in export in the recent years. Compared with 1965-66 the value of exports rose in 1970-71 by 505 per cent in iron and steel, by 273 per cent in engineering goods, 192 per cent in paper and paper board and 104 per cent in chemicals and allied products.

Among others, pearls and precious and semi-precious stones improved their export value by 80 per cent., cotton apparel by 78 per cent, iron-ore by 77 per cent, ferro-alloys by 76 per cent, leather and leather manufactures by 61 per cent, cotton manufactures by 59 per cent, hand-made carpets by 57 per cent, sugar by 54 per cent and footwear made of leather and canvas by 36 per cent during this period.

In India's export trade iron ore has come to occupy a prominent place. Among the non-traditional items, it has the largest share of Rs 1,172.8 million in export earnings in 1970-71, against Rs 633.1 million in 1965-66.

Small Scale Industry

The growth of the small scale industries is an integral part of planned economic development of India. The need for a labour-intensive and capital-saving industry was recognised soon after India's independence in 1947. Small scale industry comprises manufacturing units with investments in plant and machinery not exceeding Rs 0.75 million irrespective of the number of persons employed in them.

GROWTH

The number of small scale units registered on a voluntary basis with the industries directorates of the states and union territories increased from about 36,000 units in 1962 to 190,727 units up to the end of 1970 besides nearly 30,000 unorganised units. The total investment in this sector amounted to Rs 4,500 million in 1970. The estimates of output registered an increase of 11.2 per cent in 1969-70 as against 8.2 per cent in the preceding year.

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The total employment provided by small industries of all types rose to 6.3 million at the end of 1970 from nearly 5.8 million in 1956-66.

The programme for development of small scale industries was launched at the beginning of the second five-year plan (1956-61) which was enlarged in the third plan (1961-66). As against an estimated expenditure of Rs 914.3 million (including expenditure on rural industries projects and industrial estates) on development of small scale industries in the third plan period, a provision of Rs 1,650 million has been made for them in the fourth plan (1969-74).

CREDIT AND TRAINING

The government and financing institutions have introduced schemes to assist small scale industries in obtaining credit facilities. Loans on liberalised terms are available to these industries. State financial institutions or co-operative banks also give medium and long-term loans. The State Bank of India and nationalised banks also advance credit facilities to small industries. Another scheme to guarantee loans by commercial banks to small scale industries units is being operated by the Reserve Bank of India since July 1960.

The total credit sanctioned by the scheduled commercial banks to small industries as on December 25, 1970 amounted to Rs 8,560 million for 104 units.

An industrial extension service rendered by the Development Commissioner, Small Scale Industries Organisation, includes technical assistance, economic intelligence and management consultancy service, promotion of testing facilities and training of workers, in the use of the latest tools and techniques in various fields. The service is manned by 800 experts. Up to the end of March 1970, it had trained nearly 65,450 persons, besides 183 foreign nationals, deputed by their respective governments, from countries of Asia and Africa.

INDUSTRIAL ESTATES

For promotion of industries in the rural areas and small towns, many industrial estates were established with the aim of providing factory accommodation to small industries at suitable sites with requisite facilities. Up to March 1970, 505 industrial estates of various sizes were sponsored out of which 389 had already been completed and 303 of them were functioning. The number of work sheds in functioning estates, was 5,413.

The total investment in construction of industrial estates till 1970 came to about Rs 380 million. Annually goods worth about Rs 900 million are manufactured and nearly 0.1 million persons have gained employment.

RURAL INDUSTRIES PROJECTS

A programme for intensive development of small scale industries in selected areas, known as the rural industries projects programme, was initiated in 1962-63. On an average each project area covers three to five community blocks and a population 0.3 million to 0.5 million. Till 1960-70, 49 projects covering 237 community development blocks had been launched with an investment of nearly Rs 129 milion. About 115,625 persons are employed in these projects.

In 1969-70, goods worth Rs 101 million were produced, while the units assisted in the project areas covered 125 types of industries.

PRODUCTION

Small scale enterprises registered as factories accounted for 25 per cent of the gross output of all factories valued at about Rs 58,150 million in 1963. In 1969-70 the gross output of factories, including registered and unorganised was approximately Rs 36,700 million. This sector accounted for almost the entire production of items like clinical thermometers, bifurcated rivets, paper pins and gem clips, cotton measuring tapes, mechanical toys, spindle inserts, glass ampoules, plaster board, wood wool, pencil sharpeners, hair clippers, chalk shutters, gunmetal bushes, shoe and artist's colours, electric irons, wire netting and wire mesh, rolling tacks, picking sticks, barbed wire, industrial bushes, oil pressure stoves, polythene tubing, machine screws, upholstery coil springs, hair pins, shoe eyelets, stapling machines, ball bearings, fountain pens, spectacles frames, pressure cookers and metal clad switches.

EXPORT

The contribution of small industries to India's export effort, estimated at about Rs 100 million, accounted for 9 per cent of India's total exports of engineering goods.

Item-wise exports of some of these items during 1969-70 have been bicycles, Rs 15.9 million, bicycle components, Rs 30.3 million; electric fans Rs. 20 million; builder's hardware, Rs 4.6 million; oil lamps and stoves, Rs 4.8 million; stainless steel utensils, Rs 3.2 million; fountain pens and ball pens, Rs. 2.6 million; iron cylinders, Rs. 1.3 million and sewing machines Rs 5.5 million.

Major countries which are importing goods produced in this sector are the U.K., the USA., Canada, West Germany, USSR, France, Kuwait, Australia, Japan, Belgium, Italy, Ceylon, East Africa, Kenya, Nepal, Burma, Malaysia, Tanzania, Thailand, Iraq and Middle Eastern and African countries. The goods include canned and preserved fruit, footwear, furniture, leather and fur products, paints and varnish, spectacle frames, plastic goods, metal products, scientific and surgical instruments, cutlery and cooking wares, non-electrical machinery, electric machinery, transport equipment and sports goods.

Handbag production-cum-training Centre, Okhla Industrial Estate, Delhi

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Indo - Japanese Collaboration

The Japan Times (March 4) carried the following article by its editor, Masara Ogawa:

The Hindustan Machine Tool watch factory at Bangalore in Mysore State, which is now producing 380,000 units annualy, represents one of the many success stories of Indo-Japanese economic collaboration in the course of the past decade and a half. The output is unable to catch up with the demand.

Situated in a huge industrial complex in the suburbs of one of the most pleasant cities in southern India, the HMT plant began production in 1961 with the co-operation of Tokyo's Citizen Watch Co. In addition to the construction of the facilities, 80 Indian technicians spent one year to train for their respective jobs. At the same time, 65 Japanese experts were dispatched to Bangalore to set up the factory and to direct initial operations.

On our visit to the watch factory in early February, in the course of a two-week tour of India, we found that the Japanese personnel had been reduced to two, and they are due to be phased out soon. The collaboration is due to continue, however, with automatic self-winding watches now being readied for production. Likewise, another watch plant with a 300,000 unit capacity is being set up in Srinagar, the capital of Jammu and Kashmir in northern India. The training of technical personnel is significantly being undertaken at the Bangalore factory.

JOINT VENTURES

This joint venture in watch-making is an example of a collaboration between an Indian firm, HMT, which is in the public sector, with a private Japanese company. This is also the case with the Cochin shipyard project which is being undertaken jointly by the Indian Government and the Mitsubishi Heavy Industries. Here, in a tropical city with ideal port conditions, work is proceeding on the construction of a shipyard which will be capable not only of building but also of repairing vessels. The shipbuilding facilities will not be completed until the autumn of 1975. But it is expected that the first ship, a 61,000 DWT bulk carrier, will have been constructed by the time by employing the initial facilities. The present target is to build two ships of this size annually. But S. Kasthuri, the chief project officer, expressed confidence that the eventual productive pace could readily be stepped up to three or four ships a year with the minimum outlay and manpower. He was quite satisfied with all phases of the collaboration with the Mitsubishi Heavy Industries.

These joint projects are part of the $800 million (yen) credit advanced to the Indian Government and the $12 million private Japanese investments made in that nation over the past decade and a half. In contrast to the pattern of Japanese aid to some of the other countries, the size of the private investments is quite small. In fact, Japan's share of the total foreign private investments in India comes to only about 0.5 per cent. This shortcoming, however, is made up somewhat by the number of technical collaboration projects entered into, which have exceeded 320. In 1971 alone, there were 35.

JAPANESE INVESTORS

Indian sources, on the other hand, were quite confident of drawing greater interest from Japanese private investors. And they placed considerable expectations on the high-powered Japanese economic missions which visited India last year. The meeting last December of the joint businessmen's Co-operation Committee is expected to be quite fruitful. But it is a fact that the Indian climate for private investments is not as attractive as elsewhere in many respects, with a great deal of red tape involved and limitations placed on areas of activities.

However, it is also true India does enjoy political stability, especially as a result of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's sweeping election victory last year. Moreover, there is more than enough manpower at relatively cheap wages. And as several Japanese technicians pointed out, the Indian worker is generally hard working, efficient and capable of delicate workmanship. This was certainly true at the Bangalore watch factory, where intricate craftsmanship is required.

One of the examples of a private Japanese firm engaged in a joint project with a private Indian company is the tie-up between Toshiba and the Anand interests. Among the several joint ventures are those engaged in manufacturing water meters (in conjunction with Osaka Kiko Co.), lamps and batteries. Located in the suburbs of Kerala State's Cochin city, where the remains of the explorer, Vasco da Gama, lie buried, the Toshiba Anand Battery Co is a completely modern plant. The Japanese technical director, A. Matsunuma, pointed out that the latest technical innovations had been installed. The company's capitalisation is divided among Anand, Toshiba, the national Government, and public subscriptions—with each allotted a quarter share.

TATA STEEL

Then there is the Tata Iron and Steel Co. (TISCO), located at Jamshedpur, a clean and well planned city in Bihar State, west of Calcutta. Idealy located with the essential raw materials near at hand, TISCO has an annual capacity of two million tonnes. With the aim of doubling the output, the Tata steelmen have recently commissioned the Nippon Steel Corporation to work out a feasibility plan. They are placing great hopes on the Japanese report, which they point out may even project an expansion of production to three times the present capacity.

TISCO's past record, especially in its managerial skill and labour relations, has been so exemplary that it has the distinction of having been asked by the Central Government to continue its operation. This is an exception, since iron and steel making is a basic industry which has been taken over by the public sector. The Government does own 40 per cent of the stocks, however.

R. S. Pande, TISCO's managing director, is enthusiastic about the collaboration with the Nippon Steel Corp. "Japan is an example of what can be achieved through democracy," he points out. "The immense economic power which Japan has attained through democratic means and hard work is a lesson and an inspiration to India," Pande adds.

Pande's enthusiasm has its roots also in the joint venture which was inaugurated in 1968 between Tata Steel and Yodogawa Steel Works and Nissho Iwai Co. The project is now going into full swing with emphasis placed on the production of rolls which had hitherto been imported. The TAYO plant expects to eat into the overseas market for rolls, but it has its hands full in meeting domestic demands.

India, to be sure, has entered into economic collaboration with numerous countries in both the East and the West, but there is a particular appreciation and expectation to do more business with Japan.

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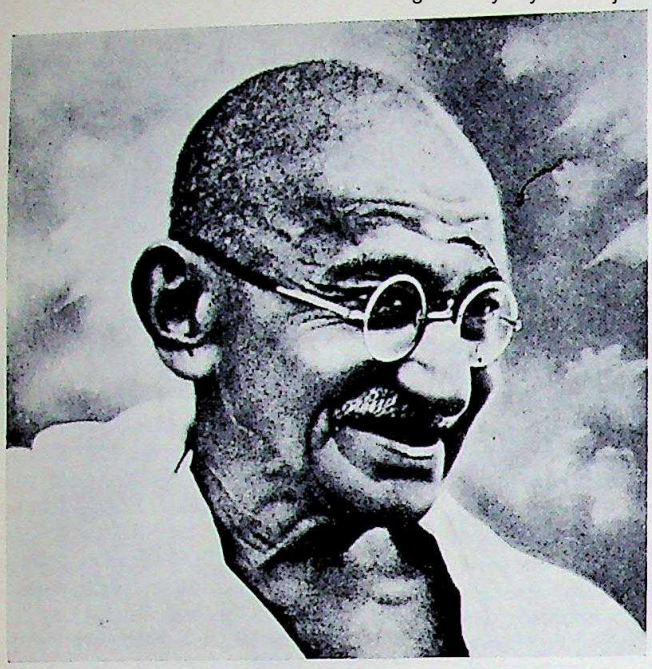

Gandhi is one of the mo known In world. Mahatma Gandhi will n to ge he belongs to history. What a family? today? Have they kept up t ian tradi

The story of Gandhi fam tory of a family. Some of the Gandhis o follow went there own way. They l g levels like every one else, live ordinar e most In much for the Gandhian tradit ost Indian

Very little is known ab Gandhi fam of Gandhis is given below:

MAHATMA

KASTURBA

* Harilal (s) Married Gulab, did no work, opposed his father

* Manilal (s) Married Sushila who lives in S. Africa, political leader

Kanti (d) Doctor, lives in Bombay

Rami (d) Married a doctor

* Manu (d) Married a Bombay accountant

Sita (d) Married to a business-man & lives in Durban, 3 children

Arun (s) Journalist in the Times of India. Married 2 children

Ela (d) Political worker in S. Africa, married to an Indian in S. Africa.

Shanti (s) Doctor, married to an American, lives in the USA.

Pradip Life Insurance agent.

Prabodh (s) Doctor, 3 daughters, all married & live in Gujrat.

Urmi (d) married & lives in America.

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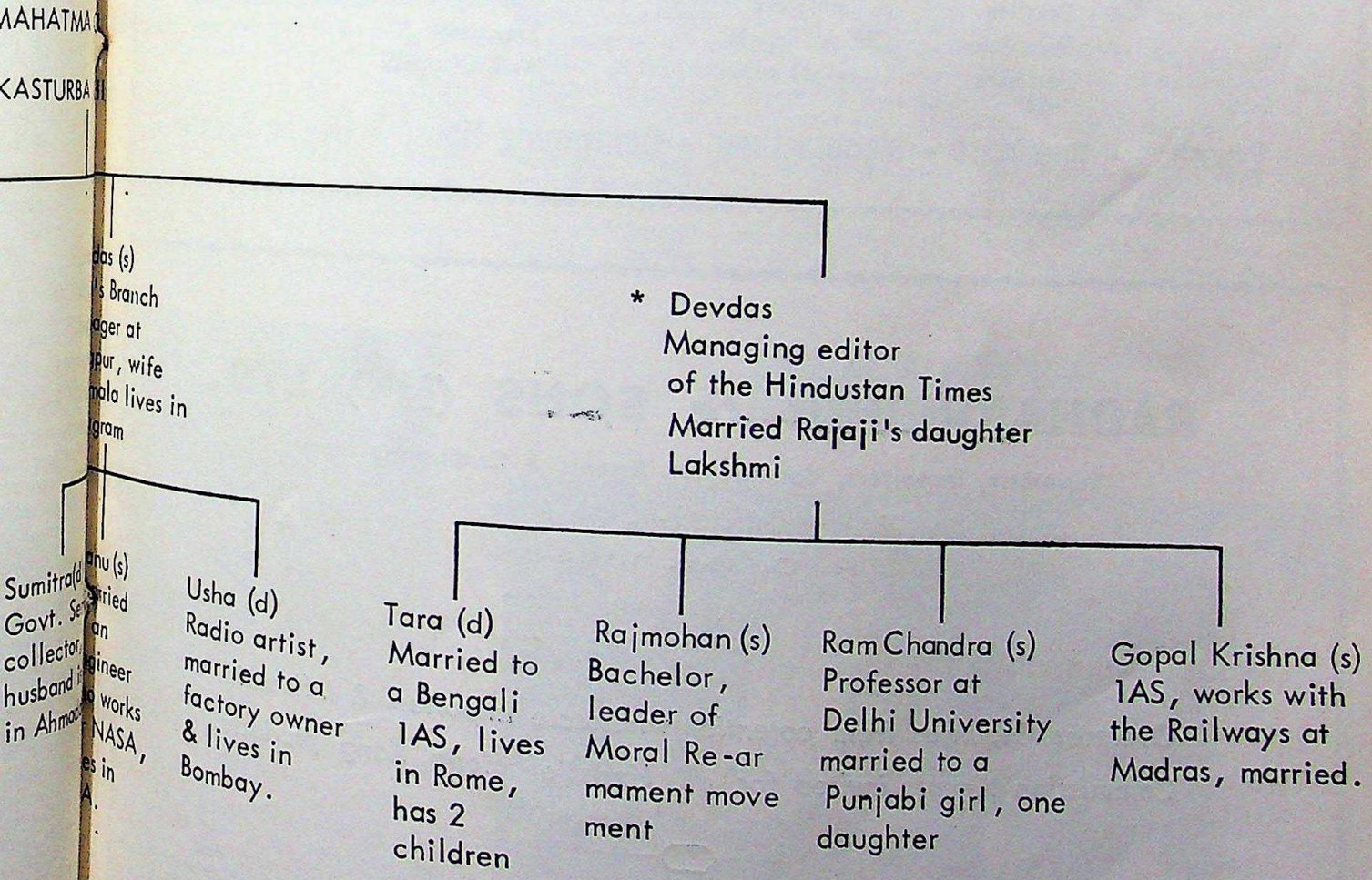
The Gandhi Family

e of the mo nown Indian name all over the Gandhi will n to generations of Indians as ry. What a family? What are they doing kept up th ian tradition?

Gandhi fam tory of any middle class Indian he Gandhis o follow the Mahatma, most y. They h g levels of education, married live ordinar e most Indians, and do not care hian tradit ost Indians.

known ab andhi family. The family bee below:



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Indians Abroad

SUDAN

News in brief

A reception was held at the residence of Shri N. K. Ghose, First Secretary (now Charge de Affaires) Embassy of India, Khartoum, on the 6th November 1972 in connection with Dessehra celebration. The guests were received by Shri and Shrimathi Ghose and entertained.

A competition for Shanker's Children painting was held at Indian Embassy premises on the 12th November, 1972. Young children from different races took part in the competition. Prizes were given by Madam Dalal for the best paintings on the 14th November, 1972, when the Children's Day was celebrated.

A student taking part in the painting competition.

A big reception was held at the residence of Shri Jagjit Singh on the evening of 20th November, 1972 in connection with the Birth Anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev Ji. Most of the Indian community, the officers and members of the Indian Embassy attended the function. The guests were entertained with soft drinks, sweets and other Indian preperations.

A farewell party for the outgoing Ambassador Shri K. L. Dalal was aranged by the Indian community of Omdurman on the 25th November 1972. Shri Seth, Secretary of the Society spoke on behalf of the community. Shri K. L. Dalal thanked the Indian community for their co-operation during his stay in Khartoum and advised them to live unitedly.

The Indian community assembled at the Embassy premises to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of Indian Independence on the 26th January 1973. Shri N. K. Ghose, CDA read out the President's message. Light refreshments were served to the Indian community assembled. A big reception was held in the Embassy residence in the evening. Besides the Indian community the function was atended by a large number of Foreign Diplomats. The guests were received by Shri N. K. Ghose, CDA and his wife and served with soft drinks and Indian preperations.

A photographic exhibition in connection with the 25 years of Independence of the Republic of India was held at Abu Ganzir Square, Khartoum 27th January to 3rd February 1973. The exhibition was declared open by His Excellency Syed Omer El Hag Mousa, Minister of Information and Culture of the Government of Sudan. During the exhibition a Children's Painting competition was also held. Young painters of different Nationalities took part in the paintings. Shrimathi Ghose distributed the prizes to the winners.

Shri O. P. Khanna, Second Secretary (INF), Embassy of India arranged a lunch in connection with Holi celebrations on 18th March 1973. After the performance of Sat Narain Katha, lunch was served to the guests and Holi was celebrated thereafter. A group of Holi players went to the Indians living in Khartoum to celebrate Holi.

KENYA

The Indian High Commissioner, Mr K. C. Nair, held a reception on March 9, in honour of the Indian Polo Team currently touring Kenya. On the occasion, the Captain of the Indian Team presented a trophy to the Kenya Polo Association on behalf of the Indian Polo Association.

Above, from left, are Chairman E. Nightingale of K.P.A., the Ethiopian Ambassador, the Indian High Commissioner and Colonel Digpal Singh.

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LIBERIA

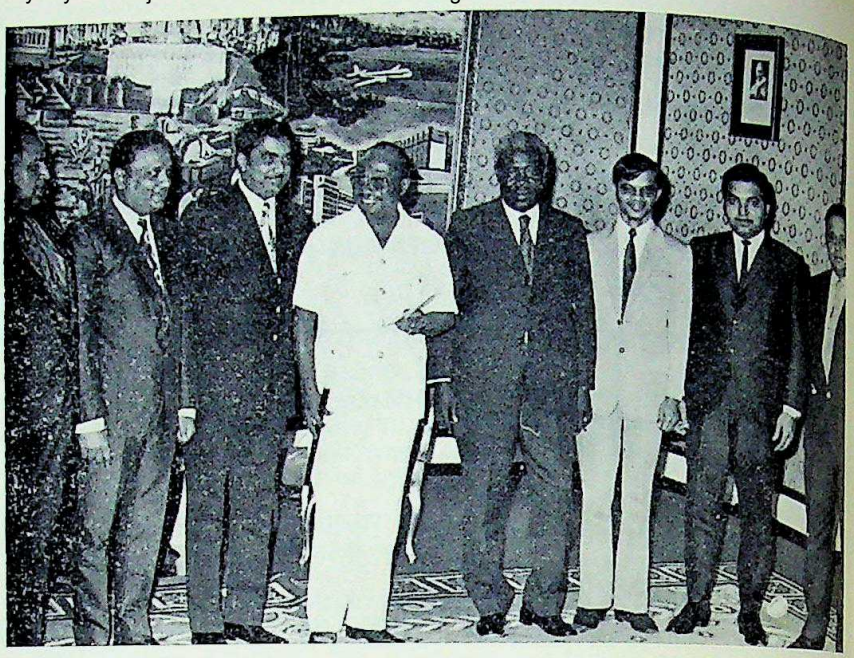
Indian community's generous response to the Liberian government's call

Last year, President of Liberia, Dr William R. Tolbert, Jr went over radio and television national broadcast in joint message to declare a self-help programme called National Fund Raising Rally. The idea was for each and everyone to contribute voluntary US$10 per head with the target of US$10 millions to be raised by May 13, 1973 called National Rally day.

The Indian business community which numbers only about 275 men, 85 ladies and 95 children, through its officially recoganized Body, the Indian Association of Liberia whose present office bearers are: Mr S. S. Bhattal (African Mercantile Agencies—President) Mr M. Nawalrai (Apex International—Vice President) Mr Gul H. Mirchandani (Hirasons Agencies Inc. —Secretary-General) Mr M. N. Anandani (National Cinemas Inc.—Executive Secretary) Mr K. P. Chandwaney (K. Pessumal & Sons—Treasurer) Mr Murli B. Dodani Bros.—Managing Committee) Mr Naresh S. Khemlani (Shamson—Managing Committee) Mr Watumal C. Vaswani (Kwality—Managing Committee) Mr Lal M. Mahtani (Satguru — Managing Committee) took up this challenge and raised a sum of US$25,091 which was presented to President Tolbert on April 17, 1973. This contribution excludes some contributions already made to various projects of National Fund Raising Rallly and some contributions still to be made by some leading Indian Firms. All this will amount over US$30,000. It should also be mentioned here that there is sizable number of Indian Nationals who are in the employment of other International companies and they too have contributed through their organizations.

Presentation ceremony was held at Executive Mansion and was led by Vice President of Liberia James E. Greene, also National Chairman of the Rally and Mr S. S. Bhattal, Mr Gul H. Mirchandani, Mr K. P. Chandwaney, Mr Murli B. Dodani, Mr Naresh S. Khemlani, Mr Watumal C. Vaswani and Mr Lal M. Mahtani from the Indian Association of Liberia.

Addressing at the Executive Mansion, Mr Bhattal told the President and Vice President that the small community of Indians in Liberia engaged in business did not hesitate to respond to call to raise funds for development because they identify themselves with the hopes and aspirations of the Liberian people. He further said that Indians here, like other nationals are not only working in tranquility, but are also enjoying the friendliness and hospitality of Government and people of Liberia and for this and other reasons, they enthusiasticaly responded to Rally Time.



Picture shows President Dr William R. Tolbert, Jr (in white) holding the check of US$25,091 presented by the Indians in Liberia. Seen L to R: Mr Naresh S. Khemlani, Mr. S. S. Bhattal, President Tolbert, Vice President Greene, Mr K. P. Chandwaney, Mr Lal M. Mahtani and Mr Gul H. Mirchandani.

In reponse, President Tolbert asserted that he was touched by Mr Bhattal's statement that the Indians in our midst identify themselves with the hopes and aspirations of the Liberian Nation and people "we are all one," he added.

Stating these are legitimate aspirations, Dr Tolbert said it was time to change by raising the standards of living of the people and bridging the gap between the haves and havenots, thus building a wholesome functioning society.

He said that if the Liberian society is made better, it is for the benefit of all living in it, be they citizens or sojourners. He said that by their contribution, they have joined the crusade to raise the nation to higher heights.

Gurdwara

Recently Indians in Liberia have completed a place of worship in the centre of the town and have now embarked on the project of buildng for themselves a place of recreation in the form of a Club.

—Gul. H. Mirchandani

SIERRA LEONE

Mahesh Meghnani received prizes from Mrs Justice P. Ken during the 99th annual prize giving day ceremony of the Methodist Boys' High School, Sierra Leone.

Picture shows Mahesh receiving the prize from Mrs Justice P. Ken.

The Principal, Mr Roy Macau[illegible] said in his speech that Mahe[illegible] Meghnani got the highest result in [illegible] history of the commercial stream [illegible] the School.

Mahesh is the son of Mr and M[illegible] V. V. Meghnani, Proprietor [illegible] Mahesh Trading Corporation a[illegible] the Managing Director of Sier[illegible] Leone Supermarkets and Sto[illegible] (M.T.C.) Ltd.

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LONDON

Indian Christian Organisation

At the Annual General Meeting of the **Indian Christian Association London**, held on 31 March at the Indian YMCA, the following office-bearers were elected: Dr J. Thomas, President; Mr S. Pichamathu, Sec./Treas.; Major J. T. R. David, Mr C. F. Vaz, Major L. S. J. Chalke, Miss Jordan, Mr A. F. Lobo, Mr B. Menezes, Mr H. K. Palit, Mr Z. Verghese, Mr J. Khanna, Mrs S. Zachariah and Mr S. Bhatti, Members.

After the meeting, a thanksgiving service was conducted by Bishop Alexander Mar Thiophulus of the Syrian Mar Thoma Church, assisted by Father J. Mazarello of Reading.

Indian Buddhist Society

At the Annual General Meeting of the **Indian Buddhist Society of the UK**, held in February under the chairmanship of Ven. Dr H. Saddhatissa Mahathera, the following Executive Committee was elected: Mr Mengaram Heer, President; Mr B. R. Bhatia, Vice-Pres.; Mrs Maadhuri Hireker, Gen. Sec.; Miss Rampyari, Ast. Sec.: Mr Charandas Boudh, Treasurer; Mr G. C. Banger, Mr T. L. Chahal, Mrs Asha Chandra and Miss Rajrani Boudh, Members.

Dr Saddhatissa by unanimous request, accepted the position of Patron and Spiritual Head of the Society. There were generous voluntary contributions to the Society from among those present. The meeting concluded with a Buddhist service.

At the first Executive Committee meeting in March it was agreed to reduce the annual membership fee to 50p. A joint celebration of the Buddha's birth and of the birth of Dr B. R. Ambedkar would be held at the end of May.

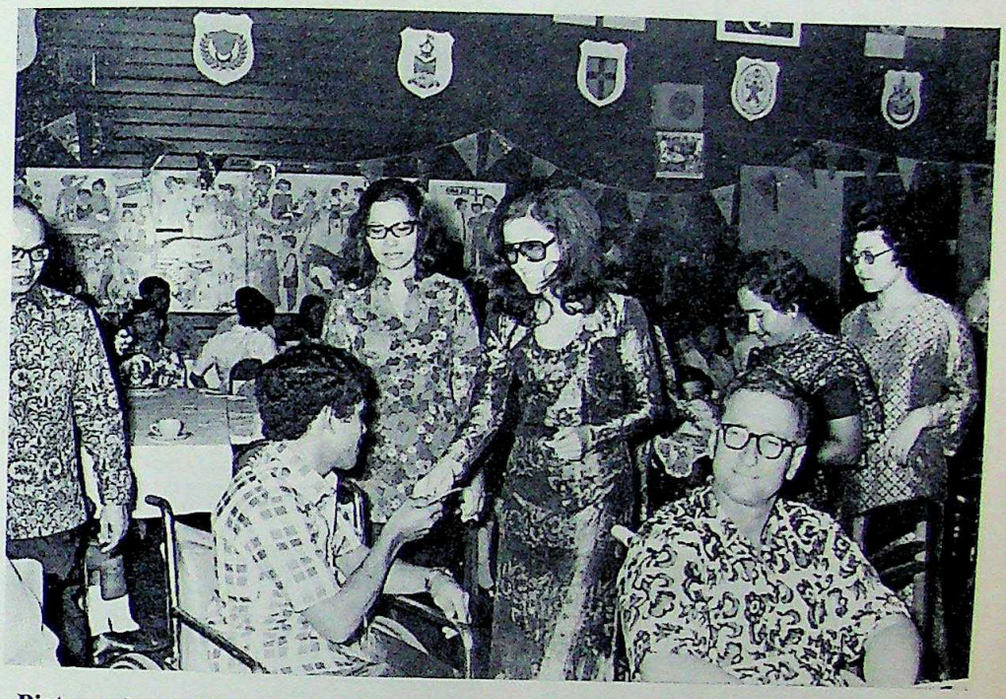
Maharashtra Mandal

The following were elected to the Executive Committee of the **Maharashtra Mandal London** for the year 1973 at the annual general meeting held in February: Mr Vinayak Mhaiskar, President; Mr S. N. Bagul, Vice President; Mr Shankar Joshi, Secretary; Mr Gurudas Bandodkar; Treasurer; Mr Subhash Kulkarni, Jt. Secretary; Mr Kishore Deshmukh, Mrs Shaila Joshi, Mrs Madhuri Hirekar, Members.

MALAYSIA / SINGAPORE

Hindu boys gets gift at Muslim Festival

Characteristic of Malaysia's inter-racial harmony and solidarity, a Hindu boy was presented a gift at the Muslim festival of Hari Raya Haji recently. He was among several other handicapped and underprivileged children who were entertained to a tea party at the Spastics Home in Cheras, Kuala Lumpur, on the occasion of the festival.



Picture shows Her Royal Highness, Isteri Raja, Muda Selangor, Raja Zarina, presenting a gift to Mr Balakrishnan at the tea party.

Minister watches Aptitude Test

Malaysian Minister of Labour and Manpower, Tan Sri V. Manickavasagam,, watching an Aptitude Test organised by the National Productivity Centre for electronic workers at Petaling, Jaya recently. The Minister is also the National Vice-President of the Malaysian Indian Congress.

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IWAKUNI / JAPAN

Office-Bearers for 1973 Indian Traders' Association of Iwakuni

President: Mr T. K. Nathani of Asha's Clothing; Vice-President: Mr H. R. Samtani of Tony's Style's Clothing; Secretary: Mr Nari Mirapuri of Gaylords.; Treasurer: Mr I. K. Chandra of Modesto Clothing; Committee Members: Mr B. T. Chugani of Esquires, and Mr Mohan Dadlani of Eagles.

Mr and Mrs. R. S. Bharwani conducted a Satnarayan Katha at their residence in Iwakuni. Holi Festival was also celebrated. They recently celebrated their wedding anniversary with a Dinner at Green Beach, Miyahama. Picture shows the couple helping each other with the wedding cake.

The long New Year holidays came in handy for Iwakunian Indian families to organise joint holiday jaunts outside the city. Picture taken at the Tokoyama Zoo shows (from left) Mst Sunil, Mrs Bindu Dadlani, Mrs Hari (back to camera), Mrs Kamla K. Samtani, Baby Arun, Mr Nari Mirapuri, Mr Kishu Samtani and Mr Hari R. Samtani enjoying lunch after a long drive.

Watching the monkey pranks at the Zoo are (left to right) Mr R. Bharwani, Mr K. Samtani, Mrs Ram, Mrs Kamla Samtani, Mrs and Mr Hari R. Samtani.

Mr and Mrs H. R. Samtani (Tony's Clothing, Iwakuni) hosted a Sayonara dinner on the eve of their son Sunil's return to India to continue his studies at St Paul's, Darjeeeling. Pictures show the kids, ladies and gents who attended the dinner.

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TURKEY

New Indian Ambassador to Turkey

A number of receptions were given in honour of the new Indian Ambassador, Mr K. R. Narayanan after his presentation of credentials to the President of Turkey on March 5, 1973.

At the function organised by the Indo-Turkish Cultural Association, Ankara, the Association President Professor (Dr) Abidin Itil, in welcoming the Ambassador, referred to the fact that Mr Narayanan was, to use a Turkish phrase, 'Daima Guler Yuzlu' (always smiling), said "May I, as an Indologist, paraphrase the Sanskrit word 'Narayana' as one of the thousand names of God Vishnu which means the main source of this whole universe, and gives us happiness". Describing the cultural activities of the Association, Prof Itil added: "I am very much aware that we have to have more of them, in order to further our contacts as we are very much conscious of the fact that Indo-Turkish cultural relations go back to ancient times".

The Indian Ambassador replying stated that he already had the privilege of reading some of the learned papers of Indologists, philologists and Assyriologists who were connected with the Association. He added: "I had read a long time ago an Urdu couplet, the meaning of which is: 'My beloved is Turkish, but I do not know Turkish'. I think Turkey has already become for us a beloved country, and even though I do not speak the language, I have the advantage of speaking the language of sincerity."

Ankara Agricultural seminar

A three-day seminar on Agricultural Problems was held at Ankara from April 11-13 and was attended by 50 delegates from Turkey, Iraq, India, Afghanistan, Lebanon, Sri Lanka, Jordan, Nepal and the United States.

Mr R. N. Azad, Special Secretary, Agriculture and Animal Husbandry, to the State Government of Uttar Pradesh, India, addressed the closing session of the International Workshop on Small Farmer Credit and dealt with the multi-dimensional approach in India for tackling the complicated problems of the small farmers and the landless agricultural labourers in India.

Pictured below at a reception given by Mr Somnath Dhar, First Secretary, Information and Culture to the Indian Embassy in Turkey in honour of Mr Azad shows (left to right): Mrs Chakraborty, Dr A. K. Chakraborty (O.E.C.D. expert with the Turkish Statistical Institute), Mr Reuben Simmons of the Ford Foundation in India, Mrs Dhar, Mr Azad and Mr Dhar.

The Kalinga award for 1972 has been posthumously awarded to Mohan Rakesh for his play "Adhe Adhure".

●

Charat Ram, the well-known industrialist, has been elected President of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry for the year 1973-74.

●

President V. V. Giri recently laid the foundation-stone for a memorial that the Tamil Nadu Government is going to erect for C. Rajagopalachari at the Gandhi Mandap in Guindy.

●

King Faisel of Saudi Arabia has accepted an invitation from the Indian Government to visit this country at an early date.

●

According to the Bulgarian writer, Emul Manov, the Bulgarian universities are intending to translate Indian literature into Bulgarian.

●

Malaysia's second highest award "Tan Sri" has been awarded to an Indian official A. N. Ambo for planning and implementing Malaysia's social security system.

●

India, Egypt and Yugoslavia have decided to extend by another five years the "Tripartite Agreement" which provides for certain tariff preferences on the exchange of specified goods between the three countries.

●

Dispur, the little town on the southern fringes of Gauhati, last week became the new capital of Assam in place of Shillong which had been the capital since 1864.

●

It was recently decided by the Union Government to employ the Central Industrial Security Force to look after the airport and airlines security at the four international airports of Delhi, Bombay, Madras and Calcutta.

●

Surendra Pal Singh, the Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs, recently told Lok Sabha that India had given Bangladesh economic assistance amounting to Rs 1.33 billion during 1972-73.

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Farewell to Vaids

Professor K. N. Vaid, accompanied by his wife and 3 children, left Hong Kong for taking up permanent residence in India after over 2 years' service in the Hongkong University.

A joint farewell luncheon was organised by the Indian Chamber of Commerce, Hongkong and the India Association of Hongkong. Mr K. Sital, Chairman of the Chamber, in his welcome speech stated that the fact that Professor Vaid had become the personal friend of all the members of the Indian Community in Hongkong during his brief stay was itself a tribute to him and his personality. Professor Vaid replying stated that he was glad to note that the Indian Community was getting united and hoped that under the leadership of Mr Hari Harilela, it could devote itself fully and wholeheartedly in developmental activities in Hongkong. He invited members of the community to participate in India's industrial development. Hon'ble Dhun Ruttonjee proposed the vote of thanks.

Photo taken at the Luncheon: L to R: Mr Hari N. Harilela J. P., Hon'ble Dhun Ruttonjee, C.B.E., J.P., Professor K. N. Vaid, Mr K. Sital, Chairman of the Indian Chamber of Commerce and Mr Bob Harilela, President of the India Association.

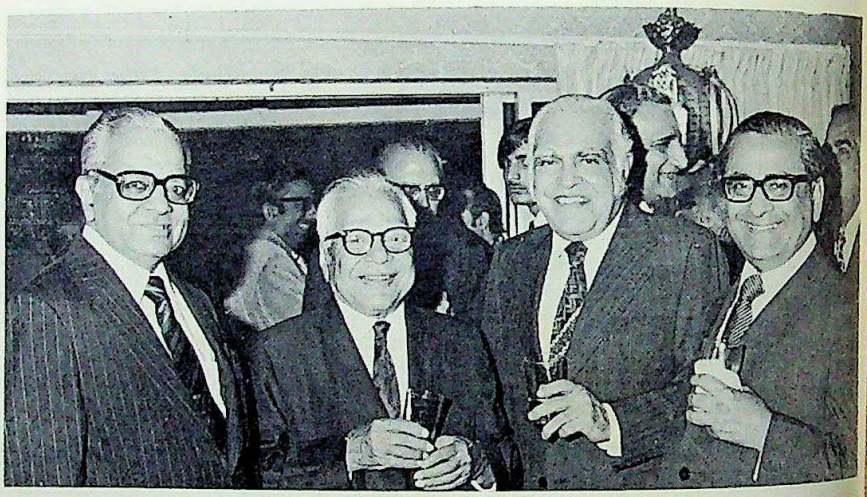

Photo taken at the same function. L to R: Mr R. Hassaram, Kaka Karamchand, Mr Ramchand Khubchandani and Mr K. Dialdas.

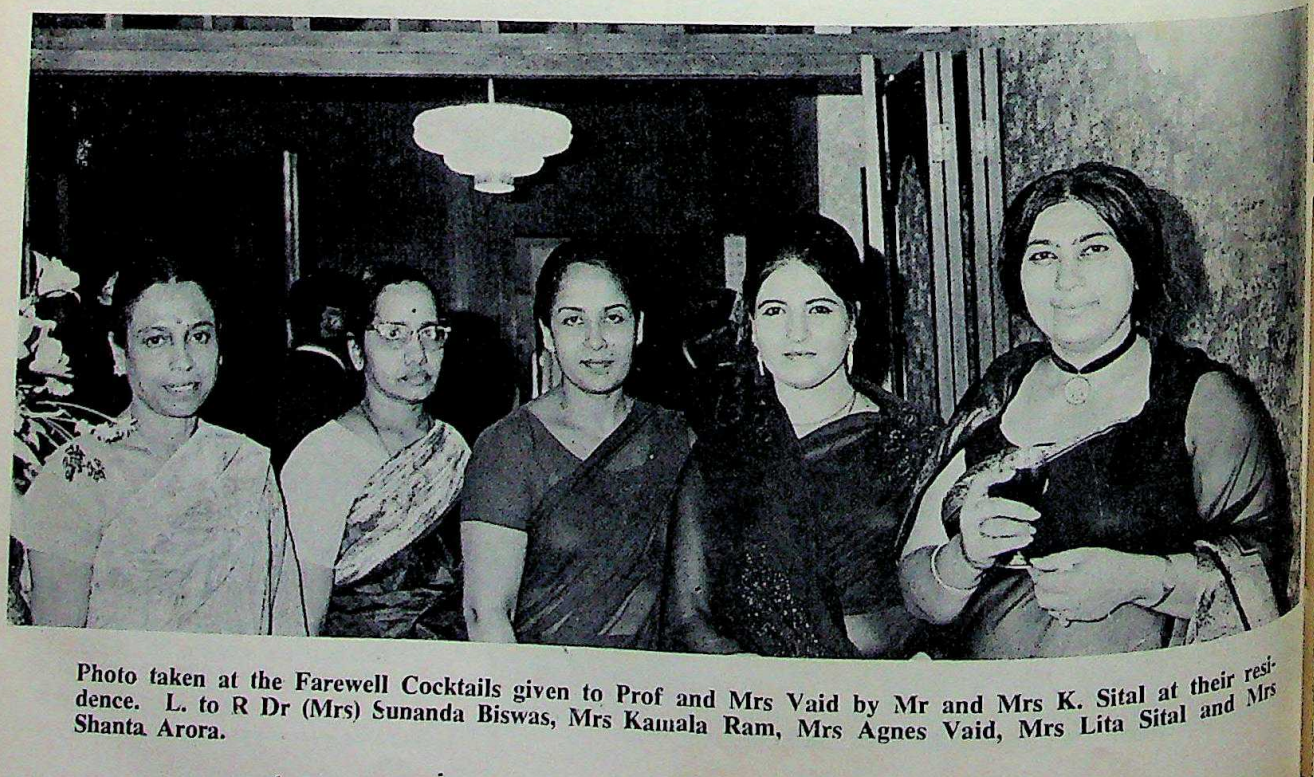

Photo taken at the Farewell Cocktails given to Prof and Mrs Vaid by Mr and Mrs K. Sital at their residence. L. to R Dr (Mrs) Sunanda Biswas, Mrs Kamala Ram, Mrs Agnes Vaid, Mrs Lita Sital and Mrs Shanta Arora.

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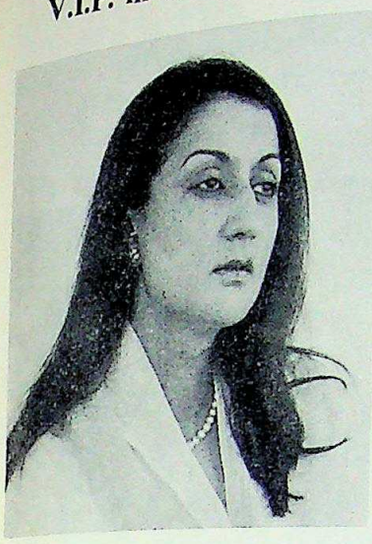
V.I.P. in Hong Kong



Mrs. Kumudesh Bhandari

Kumudesh Bhandari, wife of Indian Ambassador to Thailand was recently in Hong Kong. Popular with members of Indian community in Bangkok, she is a keen social worker.

New Appointment

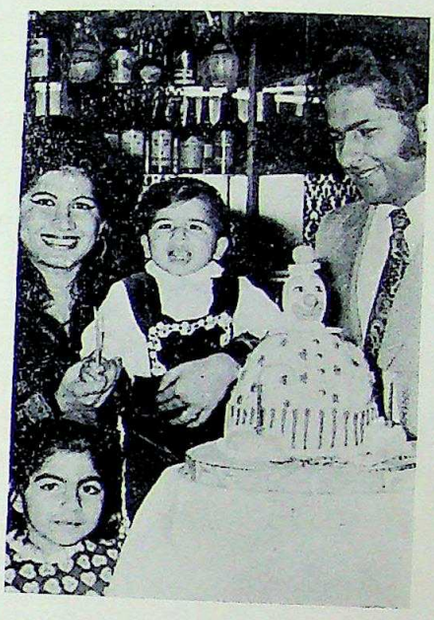
Mr V. Siddharthacharry, who served in Hongkong as Indian Commissioner for 3 years till April 1971, is shortly taking up appointment as Indian Ambassador in Prague, Czechoslavakia.

Mr V. Siddharthacharry

During his tenure of office in Hongkong, he was associated with a number of cultural activities in Hongkong and was instrumental in organising the first ever held 'India week' in Hongkong. He also reorganised the India Library in the Commission and was closely associated with Gandhi Memorial Library in the Hindu Temple.

Ravin & Neetu

The First Birthday Party of Master Ravin son of Mr and Mrs Gobind Ramchand Sakhrani of Empire Silk Store and Ramchand's of Kowloon was celebrated recently at Gaylord Restaurant, Hongkong. The party was attended by a large number of children and their parents.



Picture above shows little Ravin with his doting parents and sister Neetu at the cake cutting ceremony at Gaylords.

Mr M. J. Panjabi

M. J. Panjabi, prominent businessman of Hongkong, founder of M. J. Panjabi & Co. and a number of real estate and investment companies in various parts of the world died due to sudden illness on April 13, 1973 in Hong Kong.

Late Panjabi was associated with various Indian Organisations in Hongkong and was past President of the India Association of Hongkong.

He leaves behind is wife and only daughter.

Engagement

The engagement took place on 29th March, 1973, in Bombay of Mohan (alias Atoo) son of Mr and Mrs Ramchand Bhojraj Sakhrani (of Empire Silk Store and Ramchand's, Kowloon) with Shobha, daughter of Ghanshamdas Udhardas (of Ghanshamdas Udhardas, Bombay). Pictured above are the couple in a charming pose at the engagement ceremony which was attended by members of both the families.

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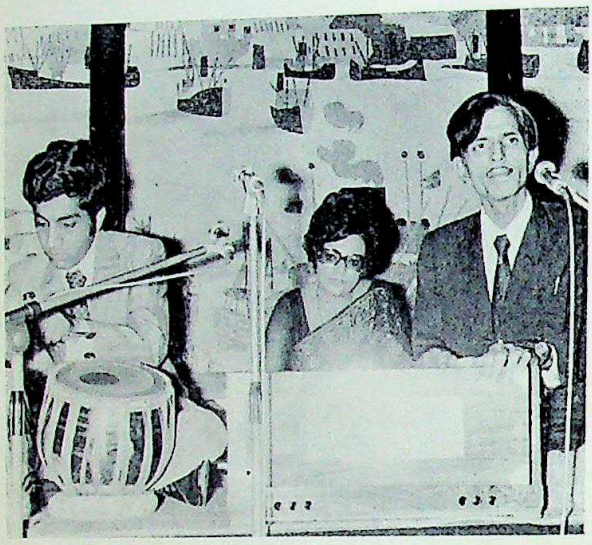
Popular Indian Music Recital in Hongkong

Chandru Atma and Indru Atma popular Indian singers who were in Hongkong, delighted local Indian audience with their repertoire of old songs at a recent music performance in Hyatt Hotel, Kowloon.



Left to right: Chandru Atma, Anita Sujanani and Indru Atma at the concert.

The appreciative audience beating measure to the songs.

Birthday Party

Seen at birthday party of Chacha Dayaram's grandson Mahesh, from L to R are: Sheila Nanik, Nanik Dayaram, Mahesh, Tirthdas Mohnani and T. Dayaram.

Several of the members of India's delegation to the PATA conference held in Japan, stopped over in Hongkong on a short visit. Air India's manager, Mr R. P. Misra, and Mrs Misra hosted a cocktail party at their residence.

Photographed at the cocktail are L-R Mrs Misra, Mr C. S. Pinto, Air India's Regional Director, East Asia, Mr M. S. Sundara, Chairman of India Tourism Development Corp., Thakor Randhir Singh, Minister of Tourism for Jammu and Kashmir, Mrs Sundara and Mr Misra.

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From Filmland

P. P. MARTIS

Rajesh Khanna weds Dimple

The biggest screen world sensation of the decade — that is perhaps how the dramatic betrothal of 'star Phenomenon' Rajesh Khanna with 'teenage Bobby-girl' Dimple Kapadia on March 23, which was followed by their marriage on March 27 will be known for years to come.

The engagement news that rocked the film industry and broke many a female heart came as an utter surprise even to those who claim to know the private lives of film stars. The film scribes, who followed Rajesh's every movement off the screen and wrote with untiring enthusiasm about his so-called affairs with his leading ladies, had not smelt a romance between the matinee idol and Dimple, who was cast by Raj Kapoor in his under production film "Bobby". Even before her first film was completed, she was signed for many more, including "Roti" with Rajesh.

The Story Behind the Story

It was March 11, 1973. Rajesh Khanna had received the best actor award of Shama in Delhi. Although Dimple was not the award winner, yet she had gone as a guest. After the function, all were shifted for dinner. Rajesh Khanna was in an extraordinarily happy mood; and all the time Dimple was with him.

Even before that, Dimple was quite fond of Rajesh and was sometimes seen visiting the sets where Rajesh was shooting. However, they seemed to be coming nearer and nearer to each other from that Delhi function. They were again seen together at a function in Ahmedabad. There, in answer to a question about his marriage, Rajesh Khanna remarked, "well, marriages are made in heaven; but four astrologers have predicted that I will marry a Gujrati girl". Just then someone whispered in his ear, "I am also a Gujarati'. She was Dimple, standing near him.

Again, while going to catch the plane Rajesh was a little ahead of Dimple, who said, "Don't leave me alone".

"Forever"? remarked Rajesh.

The marriage of Rajesh Khanna thus ends all speculation about his bride to be. The rumours that Rajesh was secretly engaged to Anju Mahendru have proved false.

"Yes," she whispered. The Destiny was taking its course. The Moving Finger was guiding their Lives.

On the night of 20th March, something unpleasant happened at a party and Rajesh Khanna left it in a depressed mood. After sometime, Dimple's father, Chunnibhai, followed him in a worse mood and came to his house where Rajesh was sitting with Dimple and her mother. To humour up Chunibhai, Rajesh decided to take a walk on the beach in front of Dimple's Juhu residence. All three of them (Rajesh, Chunnibhai and Dimple) started walking on the beach.

They were walking into the sea. A wave came and drenched them completely. Another wave and Dimple could not balance herself and fell in the water. Rajesh tried to support her and she was in his arms, as if seeking for a permanent support.

Standing more than four feet in the water, Rajesh asked Chunnibhai, "I want to tell you something."

"What is it?" asked Chunnibhai.

"Something very important", said Rajesh.

"But what is it?" Chunnibhai was becoming impatient.

"We want to get married, give us your blessings", said both and bent to touch Chunnibhai's feet. After knowing their views, Chunnibhai gladly gave his consent.

Next day after shooting for "Roti" in the morning and "Ajnabi" in the evening till 1 a.m. Rajesh Khanna was formally engaged to Dimple at Chunnibhai's residence.

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127 Hindi films during '72

Hindi tops the list of films produced in various languages in India during 1972.

Out of a total of 413 films produced in 1972, 127 were in Hindi followed by Tamil (77) and Telugu (73). Seven films were made in Hindustani, 13 in Marathi, four in Gujarati, 20 in Kannada, 47 in Malayalam, 25 in Bengali, seven in Assamese, three in Punjabi, two in Tulu, three in English and one each in Oriya, Coorgi, Sindhi, Thai and Manipuri.

Rajendra-Hema teamed

Rajendra Kumar and Hema Malini will co-star in Vijaya Madhavee Movies' eastmancolor "Sunhere Sansar", now being shot at Vijaya Studios in Madras.

This Hindi offering of A.S.R. Anjaneyulu and Vadde Sobhandari also stars Mala Sinha, Romesh Sharma, Om Prakash and others.

Naushad will provide the music and lyrics will be written by Anand Bakshi.

Jeetendra-Hema in "Khushboo"

Tirupati Pictures have launched their latest film titled "Khushuboo" which stars Jeetendra and Hema Malini.

Gulzar (of "Parichay" and "Koshish" fame) directs the film with music by R. D. Burman.

Shashi-Rajesh-Mumtaz in "Prem Kahani"

Producer Lekh Raj Khosla has signed Shashi Kapoor, Rajesh Khanna and Mumtaz to play the leads in Khosla Combine's "Prem Kahani".

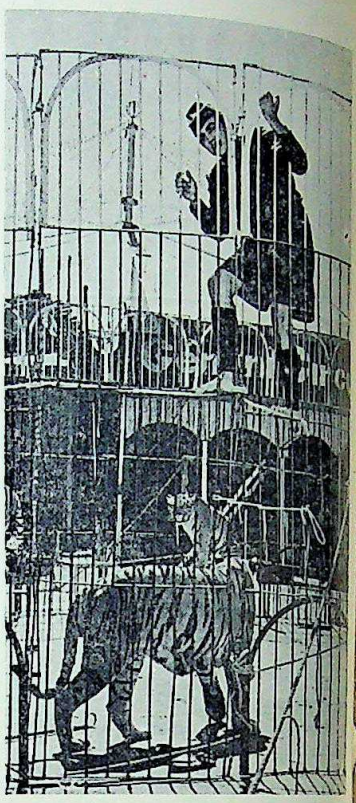
The film is being directed by Raj Khosla.

"Jugnu" climax shot in Film City

Producer-director Pramod Chakravorty shot the climax of his Eastmancolor film "Jugnu" on outdoor locations in the proposed film city near Bombay. This was probably the first film unit to make use of locations in this region.

With the filming of the climax, in which Dharmendra, Hema Malini, Pran, Ajit, Sonia Sahni and Prem Chopra participated, the major shooting of "Jugnu' is now over. Lalita Pawar, Nazir Hussain, Raj Mehra and Master Alankar with Jr Mehmood form the supporting cast of the film which has music by S. D. Burman, story by Gulshan Nanda and lyrics by Anand Bakshi.

Jaya Bhaduri as she appears in 'Doosri Sita'.



Mehmood with the tigers during the filming of a hilarious scene for Pramod Chakravarty's Eastmancolor "JUGNU" fast nearing completion.

Veteran Producer-Director Pramod Chakravorty recently hosted a party to felicitate Hema Malini and Pran, artistes of his film 'Jugnu' on their getting filmfare awards. Seen on the occasion are from left, Dharmendra, hero of 'Jugnu', the host and Hema Malini.

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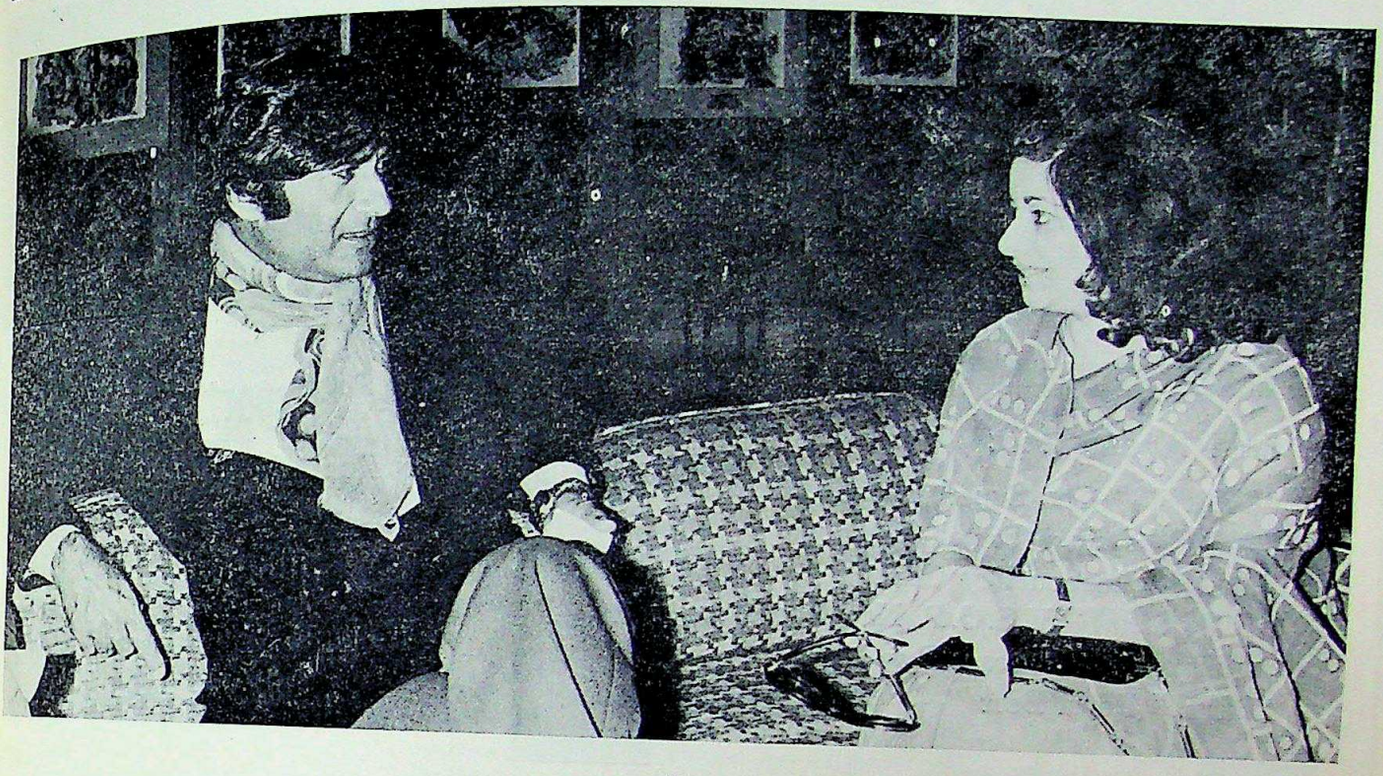
Interview with DEV ANAND



Dev Anand being interviewed by Miss Alka Sule.

Dev Anand is a remarkable person who is always on the move. This is the secret of the eternal youth which he displays and has maintained for nearly a quarter of a century.

"I am always busy and I enjoy being busy all the time. Therefore, I have no time to get old" said Dev Anand in an exclusive interview with the Indian.

Dev Anand is not the kind of an artist who after achieving success, sits back and relaxes. To him work is a way of life. He is always on the move, acting, directing or producing movies.

Although, idolized by millions, he does not want to appear in the movies as a matinee idol only or a box office draw but he likes to appear in the themes and situations which are topical. Observed Dev Anand "You have to keep watching and looking and assessing new trends and mould them in presentable forms. That is the only way you can satisfy the needs of movie goers and continue to stay in business."

Dev Anand was in Hong Kong on a location shooting for film "Panna Heera" which he is producing and directing himself with Zeenat Aman in the leading role and Rakhee making guest appearance. He finished one week's shooting in two days because of his speed and devotion.

Dev Anand is a fine actor and his role of an actor is confined to film acting only. Beyond this film image lies a man of great personality, and deep understanding.

He is not satisfied with marketing Indian films in India and some overseas territories where Indians are settled. In his opinion, many of the Indian movies are of international standard and they should be released for International audiences. Although some progress has been made in the Middle East and African countries, he feels the potential could be exploited in other areas too, specially South East Asia.

During his stay in Hong Kong, he negotiated his world acclaimed picture "Hare Rama Hare Krishna" to be dubbed in Chinese for release in the South East Asia.

Said Dev Anand, "Properly handled by devoted men, Indian film industry can create bonds of friendship and propagate Indian culture in all parts of the world."

Dev Anand who just turned 48 last September hardly looks his age and is like one in his early thirties and no wonder! As he said in his own words "I haven't got enough time to get old".

—Alka Sule.

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Freminet Champagne:
Demi-Sec, Sec, Extra Dry.

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Gleanings from Indian press

A 2,000-year old stage believed to be the oldest stage for performing arts in the country, was recently discovered near Ambikapur, the district headquarters of Sarguja, in Madhya Pradesh.

•

India has agreed to extend the Limited Payments Agreement, which was due to expire on March 27, by three months, though Bangladesh had wanted an extension of six months.

•

Indian scientists have successfully designed a power plant which will be able to produce 25 megawatts of electrical power directly from hot gas. Called a Magneto-Hydrodynamics generator, it is a compact unit having no moving parts, steam cycles or turbines.

•

The Government of India has approved 73 schemes for collaboration with foreign countries for the quarter ending December 1972. Of these 63 are for technical collaboration while 10 involve financial participation.

•

The Achutha Menon Ministry of Kerala, despite an erosion of two in its voting strength, managed to escape defeat when a vote was taken in the Assembly on the Appropriations Bill passed by the House last week.

•

According to the annual report of the Department of Personnel, the number of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe officers in the IAS had risen from 130 in 1965 to 280 in 1972 and in the IPS from 70 in 1965 to 133 in 1972.

Trade

Joint Commission for Indo-Swedish cooperation

The foreign ministers of Sweden and India have recently exchanged letters for the setting up of a joint commission on Economic, Industrial, Technical and Scientific Co-operation between the two countries.

The Commission is to investigate and identify the areas for closer co-operation between the two countries in the industrial and technical fields. It is also to seek co-operation in the exchange of ideas and information regarding the economic development of the two countries.

The Indo-Swedish joint commission has a special significance in that this would be the first such commission established by India in a developed country in West Europe.

Indo-Swedish trade exchanges have been growing year after year. The export trade from India to Sweden amounted to Rs 60.30 million in 1971-72 as compared to Rs 59.70 million in 1970-71. In these two years, Indian imports from that country amounted to Rs 126.50 million and Rs 98.00 million.

Two Agreements on Co-operation for Development between Sweden and India were also signed recently by the Foreign Affairs Ministers of the two countries. By the Agreements Sweden has committed economic and technical assistance of Rs 385 million which can be utilised by India over a three-year period. The assistance is to be utilised for a variety of purposes like imports of certain key commodities, machinery, equipment and maintenance requirements of spares and components.

The amount earmarked for technical assistance schemes and the import of commodities will be given as a grant to India while the allocation for the import of capital goods and other items will be a loan carrying only a service charge of 3/4th of one per cent and repayable in 50 years which include a grace period of 10 years. An interesting feature of the loan is that it is untied and could be used for buying goods from any source.

Joint ventures in Engineering items

As by the end of 1972, the Government of India approved 145 proposals for setting up industrial joint ventures abroad out of which 67 were related to the field of engineering industries.

Among the sixteen such engineering projects that have already gone on stream abroad with Indian assistance, five are in Malaysia, two in West Germany, two in Nigeria, one each in Kenya, Mauritius, Sri Lanka, Iran, Singapore, Thailand and Saudi Arabia.

The field of collaboration comprises a broad range including razor blades, mosaic tiles and rolling shutters, sewing machines and electric fans, automotive spare parts and components, steel furniture, precision tools, enamelled copper wire and electrical accessories, time and automobile chains, cycle and industrial chains, automobile accessories, builders' hardware, oil engines, rice milling machines, hose clips and steel.

The total Indian equity investment in all the sixteen joint ventures is of the order of Rs 30.15 million. In Malaysia alone, the Indian investment in the engineering products totalled Rs 5.30 million. In West Germany, the investment for two projects, namely, oil engines and rice milling machines as also hose clips was Rs 12.53 and Rs 0.7 million respectively.

Indian transistor sets to Hong Kong

Transistor radio receiver sets made in India have come to establish their reputation in the foreign markets. In 1971-72, their export earning was of the order of Rs 17.18 million. Nearly 210,000 sets were supplied abroad

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M. G. Ramachandran, the South Indian actor, has returned the best actor title of "Bharat" that he won in 1972 for his performance in the film "Rickshawkaran".

•

Air-India has decided to enlarge its turbo fleet by seven, by buying three more Boeing-747 planes.

•

The Union Government has decided to import 4.1 million bales of cotton from Sudan and 1.4 million bales from Egypt to make up for the six per cent decline in the cotton production during the current cotton year.

•

India has contributed $1,000 to each of the three UN bodies engaged in humanitarian and other kinds of work in South Africa on the occasion of International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

•

India will hereafter transport its prefabricated pavilions from one trade fair to another with a view to save foreign exchange.

•

The Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department recently released a special stamp to commemorate the opening of the new Parliament of Bangladesh.

•

According to the annual reports (1972-73) of the Ministry of Shipping and Transport, the Indian Merchant Fleet now has 258 ships of which 199 are on overseas trade routes and 59 in coastal service.

•

Air-India and BOAC recently entered a new pool partnership which may bring down fares between India and the United Kingdom from next month.

•

The CBI has filed two first information reports against Hari Krushna Mahatab, the former Chief Minister of Orissa, on the basis of the report of the Sarjoo Prasad Inquiry Commission which held him guilty on three counts of corruption.

of which the bulk was received by the Sudan (92,820 sets) at a value of Rs 8.5 million. U.K. was the next best buyer at Rs. 4.8 million (67,595 sets). The Congo Peoples' Republic bought nearly 14.100 sets at about Rs. 0.96 million. Ireland, Sweden, Syria, Mauritius, Iraq, Czechoslovakia, Ethiopia and Congo Democratic Republic were the other major buyers. The share of transistor radio exports in the total offtake of radio broadcast receivers (Rs 21.69 million) is substantial.

Recently, a Gujarat firm, M/s Hindustan Conductors, Nadiad bagged sizeable orders from Hong Kong for the supply of transistors. Out of the first order, worth Rs 2.8 million, the first consignment has already been shipped. The firm has also effected supplies to West Germany and Denmark. During the period April-August 1972 nearly 40 per cent of the company's output is estimated to have been exported.

The large scale sector in India has a licensed capacity of 3 million radio receiver sets per year (1971). Actual production was nearly 2 million sets. Besides, a number of small scale units are also engaged in this line of manufacture.

Indian emporium in New York doubles sales

Sona, the Indian Government-sponsored cottage industries emporium in New York in a report, claimed that it had achieved record sales of $1.368 million during the fiscal year ending March 31. This reflects an overall growth by 107 per cent over the previous year.

Sona maintains two retail outlets, in New York, and Boston. Its separate wholesale division in New York creates marketing channels and promotes sales. The rise in sales represents sales of handicrafts, fabrics and ready-made garments.

Mr Prakash Joseph, the shop's general manager, said one new element in its overall growth was the spectacular rise in wholesale business —mainly in fabrics and garments contracting—that showed a 200 per cent increase.

He said: "The major increase has taken place in the newly-formed textiles and garments division for mass merchandising of fabrics and garments. This has been achieved in close cooperation with private enterprise in India which has been given the full benefit of all export incentives."

A part of Sona's activity has been to stimulate U.S. fashion interest in the hand-made products and fabrics of India. An exclusive fabrics library has been set up complete with catalogues, sketches and legends to attract importers.

Mr Joseph said the market in North America has begun to admire Indian fabrics and demand them. He said the market potential for Sona in the U.S. should increase to $10 million a year in five years.

Prime Minister of Yugoslavia Arrives in New Delhi

His Excellency Mr Dzemal Bijedic, President of Yugoslavia, accompanied by Madame Razija Bijedic, visited New Delhi in Mach.

Photo shows the distinguished visitors with the Prime Minister, Indira Gandhi, who received them on their arrival at the Delhi airport.

Hotels

Motel for Tourists

Third in the India Tourism Development Corporation's (ITDC) chain of motels, Khajuraho Motel was recently inaugurated. The motel is built as a part of ITDC's nationwide effort to provide comfortable and economic accommodation to tourists. The motel consists of 48 double rooms and 20 of these are air conditioned. It has the facility of air conditioned restaurant and bar, lounge and a conference room. Spread over 4 1/2 acres, the motel has a garden and parking area.

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ITDC's tourists cars are available and a booking office of the Indian Airlines is also located at the Motel.

In 1971, nearly 60,000 tourists visited Khajuraho including 4000 tourists from abroad. This year, up to October, nearly 5000 foreign tourists had visited Khajuraho.

ITDC's first motel was opened recently in Hassan in Mysore and the second at Jammu. The Corporation have plans to construct more motels, travellers' lodges and restaurants in many parts of the country to serve motorists and other travellers.

Classification of hotels

On the recommendations of the hotel review committee 1970, and the hotel and restaurant approval and classification committee, the government of India has announced its decision on categorisation of hotels in India.

According to this decision, Taj Mahal hotel, Bombay; Ashoka hotel and Oberoi Intercontinental, New Delhi, have been classified as "five-star de-luxe" hotels.

The following are five-star hotels: Clarks Shiraz, Agra; Sun-N-Sand, Bombay; Hindustan international and Oberoi Grand, Calcutta; Claridges and Imperial, New Delhi. Those classified as four-star hotels, are: Ambasador, Nataraj and Ritz, Bombay; Park, Calcutta; Malabar, Cochin: Connemara, Madras; Ambassador, Diplomat, Oberoi Maidens, Delhi, Rajdoot, New Delhi and Sun-N-Sea, Visakhapathnam.

The hotels classified as three-star are: Lauries, Agra; Cama, Ahmedabad; West-end, Bombay; Sea Lord, Cochin; Ritz, Coonoor and Ritz, Hyderabad; Pandyan, Madurai; Janpath and Vikram, New Delhi; Oberoi Cecil and Oberoi Clarkes, Simla and Clarks, Varanasi.

Assessment of the following three hotels will be made after the criteria for the new category "palace hotels" has been finalised: Rambagh Palace, Jaipur; Obseroi Palace, Srinagar and Lake Palace, Udaipur.

Oberoi-Sheraton opens

India's tallest building and largest hotel, the 35-storey, 500-room Oberoi-Sheraton will be inaugurated at the Nariman Point with the snip of a 40-cm. jewel-encrusted pair of golden scissors in Bombay.

On hand to preside over the ceremonies will be Mr Y. B. Chavan, Union finance minister, Mr V. P. Naik, chief minister of Maharashtra, Rai Bahadur M. S. Oberoi, president of Oberoi Hotels of India and Mr Claude Feniger, president of the ITT Sheraton International Inc.

International celebrities participating in the four-day festivities include the Prince and Princess of Nepal and Hollywood film stars Joan Fontaine and Trevor Howard.

The inaugural reception will be without the traditional food and beverage service due to the Maharashtra state government guest control order.

The hotel has a health club (massage, sauna, hydro-therapy), eight restaurants, three bars, a clover-leaf shaped swimming pool on an upper floor and an extensive four-floor shopping centre with 240 shops, a mini theatre, 24-hour room service, direct-dial telephone, iced water on tap four-channel hi-fi music, same-day laundry and dry-cleaning service and will have a television set in every room once international TV programmes via satellite are received here..

All the art work is by Indian artists like Satish Gujral (two massive ceramic murals) and the husband-wife team of B. Vithal and B. Prabha (brick red mural of Malabar Coast fisherwomen).

The hotel has escalators connecting different floors. The master chef is Peter Fuchs of Switzerland, Chef Fong is in charge of the Polynesian food section and Hans Raj Kapotra, who has cooked for Jacqueline Kennedy, now Onassis, is in charge of the Indian section.

Economy

Government offers plan for new import policy

The Government released details of a new import policy that is designed to spur industrial growth and promote exports of homemade goods.

Eleven more industries have been put on the priority list; import of 220 items banned and 81 items curtailed; capital goods procedures have been simplified, and export compulsion extended to five more items.

Import of raw materials, components and spare parts needed by basic industries whose production in turn becomes the input of other key industries, including export-oriented units, has been liberalized.

Among other features of the new policy are:

- The STC will import books on research, science, law and medicine;
- Import of books by private trade will continue;
- Small-scale units can form consortia which will be classified as export houses;
- Raw materials supplied to exporters at international prices, will be treated as exports;
- Import of samples have been liberalized.

War Widows

Five war widows were re-married under the auspices of the War Widows' Association last week in Meerut. Mrs Mohini Giri of the Association gave away the brides.

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Registers in various employment exchanges in the country show that the number of job seekers have increased from 25.3 per cent in 1971 to 35.2 per cent in 1972.

●

The Minister of State for Finance, Mr K. R. Ganesh, told the Lok Sabha recently that the total deficit revealed in the annual budgets of the different States presented so far amounted to Rs 2.62 billion.

●

Defence Minister Jagjivan Ram told the Lok Sabha that joint naval exercise between India and Indonesia have been agreed to in principle.

●

A surveillance radar costing Rs 8.2 million and having a range of 60 nautical miles has been installed at the Delhi airport to serve as a vital navigational aid to domestic and international air traffic.

●

The Kerala State Assembly recently passed an official Bill under which both Malayalam and English can be used for official purposes.

●

It is likely that the historic town of Kurukshetra will become the new capital of Haryana when the Prime Minister's award on Chandigarh is implemented.

●

Air Chief Marshal O. P. Mehra, who is also chairman of Hindustan Aeronautics Limited, recently said that feasibility studies were being conducted on the Indian made HF-24 (Marut) fighter bomber to find out if further development was possible on the present Mark II reheat version.

●

The Nepalese Government has virtually nationalised the overseas export of raw jute and jute cuttings and thus removed one of the biggest irritants in Indo-Nepalese relations.

●

The Central Government has ruled that its employees must not consume any intoxicating drink or drug in a public place, which means any place or premises (including a conveyance) to which the public have access, whether on payment or otherwise.

Higher imports

Among those industries brought on the priority list are: polystyrene, steel wire, industrial alcohol, synthetic detergents and polyethylene.

For registered exporters, import of machinery will be allowed on a more liberal basis against replenishment licences. Manufacturer-exporters who double their exports, will be allowed more liberal import of raw materials.

Higher import of spares will be allowed to promote better maintenance of equipment and to increase production.

Export obligation has been extended to radio receivers, talcum powder, face powder and cream, hair dyes, playing cards, glass frames and vacuum flasks.

Supplies of raw material made by indigenous producers to exporters at international prices will be treated as exports and will qualify for all the benefits under the import policy.

Greater allocation of imports of raw materials for the small-scale sector have been provided for.

The minimum export performance of Rs 25 lakhs for registration as an export house has been waived for the export development corporations of state governments.

Indo-Afghan cultural pact

India will assist Kabul University to set up a department of English language teaching by providing the the necessary equipment, personnel and facilities for teacher training.

This is envisaged under an executive programme of cultural co-opperation between India and Afghanistan for 1973 and 1974 signed in New Delhi on April 2 by the Deputy Education Minister, Mr D. P. Yadav, and the Afghan Deputy Minister of Information and Culture, Mr Mohammed Khalid Roashan.

The programme provides for co-operation between the two countries in the fields of education, science and technology, art and culture, radio, television, press and sports.

The two countries will exchange under this programme professors, experts, artists, archaeologists and dance and music troupes, award fellowships for higher studies and research and exchange educational aids, publications, specimens of antiquities and art objects.

India will also continue its work of preservation of the two Buddha images at Bamiyan and carry out exploratory work in the Fauladi Valley caves.

It will provide sports coaches to Kabul University and both sides will encourage co-operation between their sports organisations.

Mrs Parsay, Iran's Education Minister, who toured India in March.

Miscellania

An honour not missed

The Indian high commission does not figure in a new 'top ten" list prepared by the British home office, and just as well.

For the list is "a roll of road dishonour"—more precisely, it gives the number of parking offences for which diplomats from various countries claimed immunity.

Figures for the past six years released by the home office show Nigeria at the top of the list, with 11,104 parking offences.

Saudi Arabia comes next (6,7[illegible]) followed by Hungary (6,727), Egypt (5,767), Ghana (5,677), Poland (4,471), Turkey (4,460), Iran (4,[illegible]) Cyprus (3,637) and Cuba (3,460).

The absence of the Indian high commission from the list is all the more remarkable when one considers that the strength of its diplomatic staff is bigger than that of most of the other missions in the "top ten."

A Nigerian diplomat remarked that it is for the British government to provide adequate parking facilities.

Some of the missions have no parking space at all.

Charat Ram is chief

Mr Charat Ram has been animously elected President of Federation of Indian Chambers Commerce and Industry for 197[illegible]

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The three-day 46th annual session of the federation was held in Delhi recently.

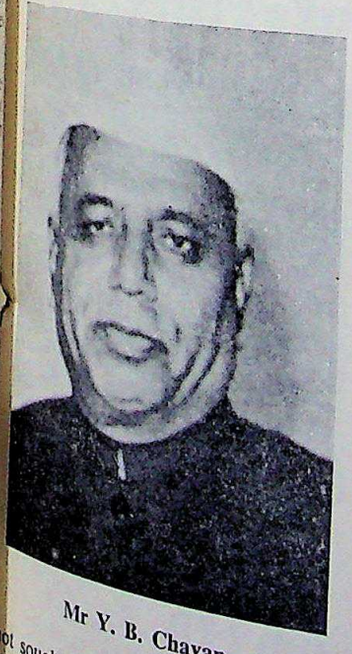
Mr K. K. Birla has been unanimously elected Vice President. The new Standing Advisory Committee consists of: Mr S. L. Kirloskar, Mr Ramnath A. Podar, Mr D. C. Kothari, Mr S. S. Kanoria, Mr Madanmohan Mangaldas, Mr Pravinchandre V. Gandhi, Mr M. V. Arunachalam, Mr Prem Chand Jain, Mr J. H. Doshi, Mr A. K. Jain, Mr K. N. Modi and Mr R. P. Goenka.

Improving relations with U.S.A.

Indo-American economic relations are moving towards normalisation with the recent dialogue between Finance Minister Y. B. Chavan and the U.S. Treasury Secretary, Mr George Shultz.

Mr Chavan, who visited Washington mainly for the meeting of the IMF committee of 20, which is considering international monetary reform, discussed with Mr Shultz increased exports from India and the question of the future disposition of the massive PL-480 rupee funds.

Mr Chavan said on his return on March 30 he found a "positive response' from the U.S. authorities for opening of talks on details to work out a solution to the "major issue" of PL-480 funds. He made it clear he had



Mr Y. B. Chavan

not sought any aid from the U.S. Before leaving for Washington, Mr Chavan had, however, welcomed the U.S. action in releasing the 87.5 million dollars of blocked aid.

According to recent congressional testimony by a USAID official in Washington, it was proposed to include India in the list of nations for development aid during 1973-74. The U.S. envisages a smaller role for herself in economic assistance in South Asia. Some indication of U.S. thinking may be given at the next meeting of the Aid-India Consortium in Paris in June.

Zambian civil aviation job for Indian

An Indian civil aviation expert Mr Mahesh Chandra Dikshit, has been appointed Director-General of Civil Aviation in Zambia.

Mr Dikshit, 55, a former Deputy Director of Civil Aviation in India, represented his country on the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) from 1964 to 1968.

Russian award for Indian scientist

Dr N. P. Gupta, director of the Virus Research Centre, Poona, was awarded the D. I. Ivanovsky medal for virology at a function recently in Poona.

Prof Mjasenko Anatoli Mikhailovich, director of medical sciences in the D. I. Ivanovsky Institute of Virology in the USSR, presented the award.

The award was made on the occasion of the birth centenary of the Russian scientist and a pioneer in virology, D. I. Ivanovsky.

Dr Gupta said the award made to him was "in fact an honour" done to the scientists at the Virus Research Centre.

Dr C. G. Pandit, former director-general of the Indian Council of Medical Research and founder of the centre, presided.

Largest Indian tanker

The first largest Indian tanker in the fleet of the state-owned shipping corporation of India (SCI) M. T. Jawaharlal Nehru, commenced operation between Madras and the west Asian gulf, bringing crude oil from the Madras refineries. Earlier, this tanker was employed in international cross trades on a competitive basis. In two and half years of its operation up to March 1972 the tanker earned more than Rs 50 million of foreign exchange for the country.

Another sister vessel, M. T. Lal Bahadur Shastri, is expected to operate in this sector in March for bringing crude oil from the Madras refineries. These tankers will transport about 2.5 million tonnes of crude oil annually.

The SCI today owns a fleet of 94 vessels of a total of 1.85 million dwt, and covers over 50 countries in the five continents through its network of fast liner services. In addition, 39 vessels of 1.635 million dwt are on order (including a tanker and bulk carrier of more than 100,000 dwt) with shipyards in India and abroad. With the phased delivery of these vessels, the corporation expects to cross four milion dwt mark by the end of 1975.

On the occasion of the World Disabled Day on March 17, 1973, a sports' meet for handicapped children and a symposium were organised at the Teen Murti House, New Delhi.

Photo shows competitors in the wheel chair race at the finish.

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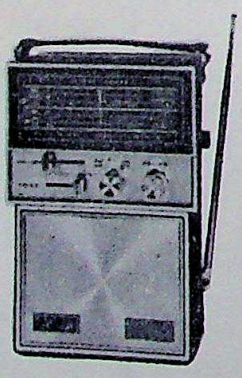

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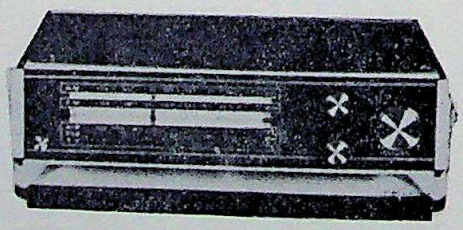

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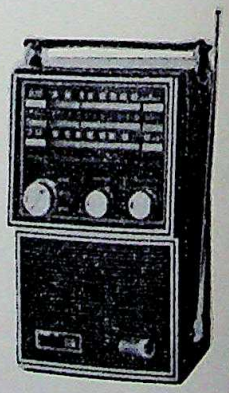

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News letter from South India

K. R. Seshagiri Rao

ANDHRA PRADESH

After nearly five months of disturbances and excitement, the common man is having a sound sleep today without any nightmares. The NGOs have called off their 108-day-old strike and are reporting for duty. Earlier to that, the Assistant Civil Surgeons have reported for duty. The lawyers are attending the courts. And the students are attending their classes.

Thus the stage is now set for finding a solution to the Andhra problem, because the return to normalcy fulfils the Prime Minister's condition for "taking up all aspects of the Andhra problem in a calm atmosphere". In retrospect, the Centre's strategy of playing for time in the name of negotiations has paid off temporarily, for it has its own long-range problems.

P. V. Narasimha Rao
Having a sound sleep

Meanwhile the Andhra Pradeh High Court has held that a native of Telangana is not a mulki, and that those who migrate to Telangana with the intention of permanently settling there and have completed fifteen years of stay are mulkis. In another case, the Court has held that the Mulki Rules apply only at the time of appointment and not in subsequent transfers. In sum and substance, these judgements work against the interests of the natives of Telangana.

This forced the Telangana separatists to have second thoughts on their insistance of perpetuating the Mulki Rules. Sensing the public mood, the Chairman of the Telangana Regional Committee, Mr Rajamallu, publicly advocated for the scrapping of the Mulki Rules. Taking this cue, some other integrationists of Telangana are demanding the abolition of all safeguards—arising out of the statutory provisions and the Gentlemen's Agreement—given to Telangana so that there are no irritants in the way of an emotionally integrated Andhra Pradesh.

However, the hardliners among the separatists under the leadership of Dr M. Chenna Reddi, still being conscious of the 1969 separate Telangana agitation, are lacking the courage to take public notice of the change of complexion of the Mulki Rules and the change in people's attitude. The Mulki Rules issue has in a manner of speaking become the vested interest of some integrationist as well as separatist Telangana Congressmen.

In this context the Centre's strategy seems to be not to hand down a formula to resolve the crisis now, as the Prime Minister did on November 27 last when she announced her five-point formula, but to allow opinions to crystallise in both the regions in favour of the abolition of the Mulki Rules. This again is going to be a time consuming process, especially because of the conflicting interests the two regions have in the Mulki Rules.

In pursuance of this strategy, the Prime Minister has asked the once "deposed" Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh Mr Brahmananda Reddi to initiate talks with leaders of both the regions in an attempt to keep the State intact. Mr Brahmananda Reddi has camped in Hyderabad for five days and sounded all the leaders, including Mr B. V. Subba Reddi and Dr M. Chenna Reddi hardliners from Andhra and Telangana regions respectively, as to how best they could save the integration of the State. Mr Brahmananda Reddi is apparently satisfied with the outcome of his talks.

The State Capital is galore with rumors that Mr Brahmananda Reddi, deposed from the gaddi only eighteen monthe back, will revert to State politics and take over the leadership. This has set in motion horse-trading and group polarization. All the erstwhile followers of Mr Brahmananda Reddi—whether in separatist camp or in integrationist camp or deserted him to support Mr P. V. Narasimha Rao —are now rejoining his camp. This repolarization of groups has further weakened the separatist movement in both the regions. People have forgotten the past five nightmarish months and are looking forward to Mr Brahmananda Reddi's leadership. However, it is doubtful how far he is inclined to accept it.

The hardliners among the separatist Andhra Congressmen are licking their wounds. At the same time, to maintain their public facade of separatism, they have decided to resign from the Congress and appointed an ad hoc committee to draft a Constitution to the proposed new party. But there appears to be no enthusiasm among the ranks, for though 85 Congress MLAs have submitted resignations to their party, hardly one-fourth may finally join the new party. More than half of them have already sent feelers that they will accept Mr Brahmananda Reddi's leadership.

The non-congress separatist parties in Andhra have been swept off their feet by these sudden developments. They alsa feel they have been "let down" by the separatist Congressmen. They are now reconciled to let go it alone, and have set up a "Jai Andhra Front" to carry on the separatist movement.

KERALA

The Muslim League is going to dictate terms to the Congress not only in this State but at the national level as well. The League has already called the tune, and the Congress is responding by publicly announcing

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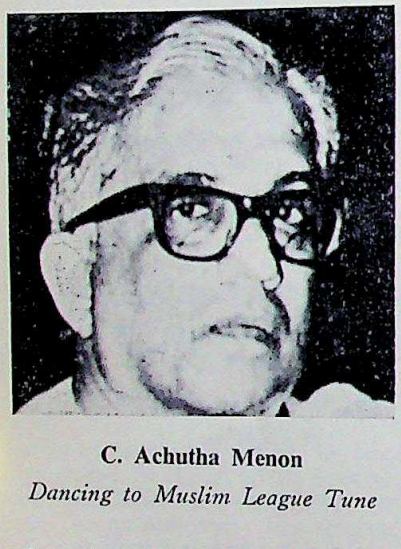
time in and time out that the Mulslim personal law will be left untouched.

The Muslim Legue, which has its leadership in Kerala, is all set to spread its influence as a champion of the rights of the minority community throughout the country.

The resounding vistory of the League in the recent municipal election in Bombay has evoked hopes among the leaders here of similar success in the next election to the U.P. assembly. They also feel that the influence of the organization will spread in Bihar and West Bengal.

The history of the League in Kerala inspires its leaders. Partition did not leave the organization in disarray in this State. When the late Mr Mohammed Ismail of Tamil Nadu tried to revive the League, he found the Kerala unit intact.



C. Achutha Menon

Dancing to Muslim League Tune

It contested elections and gradually grew into a political force. Its help was sought as an ally by the Congress in fighting communists who had been returned with a single-vote majority to the State assembly in the 1957 election. The League leader, the late Syed Ibrahim Baffaki Thangal, won friends and gained political respectability for his organization.

With the help of the League, the Congress returned to power after defeating the CPI in the mid-term election in 1960. However, under pressure from a section of its own leadership it parted company with the League. Subsequently, the CPM teamed up with the League, while the CPI and the Revolutionary Socialist Party continued to treat it as a political untouchable. By 1967, however, after a bitter defeat in a mid-term poll, the CPI and the RSP reconciled themselves to the CPM view and joined a united front which included the League. Today the Congress, the communists and other parties are friends or allies of the League in Kerala.

The League now feels that there is a political awareness among Muslims who no longer feel that the Congress is the only national party which will safeguard their interests. This awareness will be evident in the forthcoming elections to State legislatures, the League leaders say. They point out that the Congress will not be able to fight the League at the national level if it wants the coalition Ministry in Kerala to continue. If the Congress ends the coalition, the CPM and other Opposition parties would readily befriend the League.

Causes of friction between the Congress and the League already exist. While they are partners with the CPI in the Kerala coalition Ministry, the League assumes the role of an independent Opposition in Parliament.

Within Kerala, the League has thwarted the attempts of the Congress at entering its spheres of influence. A recent instance was the municipal election in Tirur where the Congress came to a tacit understanding with the Marxists for fighting the League. The two parties could secure only eight seats while the League won 15. The remaining seat went to the Jana Sangh.

By its policy of accepting the friendship of almost all political parties, the League has extended its influence not only in Kerala but also in certain other parts of the country. In the mayoral election in Bombay the League openly declared its opposition to the Congress and supported the Shive Sena nominee for the office of Mayor.

The Congress faces an embarrassing situation. It cannot break with the League in Kerala, nor can it prevent the League from expanding its sphere of influence. The immature student and youth leadership of the Congress in the State are unable to meet this new challenge.

MYSORE

The "operation cleansing Congress" of Mr Hanumanthayya is likely to be successfully completed in a couple of months—may be ahead of time! The spectre of political instability is looming hazily on the political horizon of the State, the only bastion of the Congress in the South in the same way as it was the erstwhile bastion of the Congress (O) after the split of the Congress. It is ironical that both Gujarft and Mysore, the prized gains of the ruling Congress (as they were the last to fall into its lap) should be clubbed together in their current distress on the political plane under different circumstances.

Devraj Urs

Operation Cleansing

A majority of the M.P.s from Mysore have submitted a memorandum against the Urs ministry to the Prime Minister and 43 M.L.A.s handed over a representation to the State Chief Minister asking for reshuffle of the Cabinet.

It is again an irony that both the M.P.s and M.L.A.s belong to the Congress Forum for Socialist Action who have originally groomed Mr Urs for Chief Ministership. In fact, Mr Urs was the Convener of the State unit of the Forum. And the majority of the members of the Urs Cabinet belong to the Nehru Study Forum (abother pressure group within the Congress). It is these two pressure groups that are playing havoc with the Ministry.

Added to this, the Congress image in the State is at its lowest ebb. Several of the major and prestige elections to the legislature and municipalities have gone against the ruling party since the last general election evoking doubts among the party about the efficacy of the party machinery. The latest of the elections the Congress has lost is the election from the North-West Teachers' Constituency to the Legislative Council where the Congress is already in a minority.

Perhaps no government in Mysore since Independence rose to power under such auspicious and favourable circumstances and amidst such high popular expectations as that of Mr Urs, backed by a record performance of the party at the hustings—a huge majority in the 216-member Assembly. Mr Urs has also enjoyed the reputation as one who courageously provided the State with a break from the traditional communal politics.

It is therefore intriguing that Mr Urs should be faced with a challenge not from the traditional sources but from unexpected quarters. Mysore today is witnessing the curious spectacle of a virtual confron-

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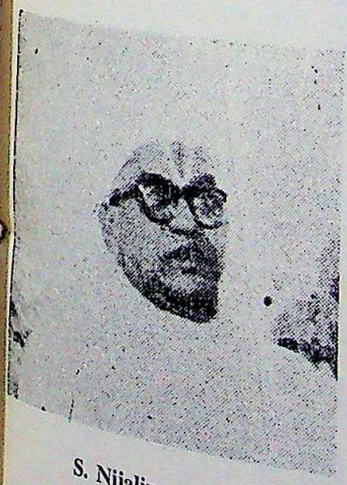
between the influential section of the party M.P.s and M.L.A.s and the State administration.

According to a section of the party, these developments are capable of being converted by the Chief Minister to his advantage in the sense that they may render his task of a possible reshuffle of his Cabinet easier. There is another view which says that the Chief Minister will do well to drop out such of the Ministers as are already known to be person, non grata with the party in general and carry on for some time without filling these vacancies biding his time for a reconstitution of the Cabinet team.

Some three months ago a measure of anti-Urs sentiment had manifested itself in the party on the issue of the re-election of the present incumbent Mr K. H. Ranganath, as the PCC President. The two groups had ominously taken up position against each other in the race for capturing the party machinery. The supporters of Mr Urs had seen in the sizable backing for Mr Ranganath a posture against the Chief Minister. However, the party high comand intervened and settled the matter, and the passage of time apparently healed the rift.

But the hard core dissident section in the Congress Legislature Party, whose strength is estimated at about 25, could not reconcile. So far they have been watching the developments. Now that there has developed a rift within the "in-group", they have revived their opposition to the Chief Minister independently of the signatories to the memorandum.



S. Nijalingappa

Dreaming Still

Earlier the party high command was given the impression that Mr Hanumanthayya was the trouble-shooter. Now that the opposition to the Chief Minister has reached serious proportions, it is having second thoughts on the issue. It is no more giving credence to the reports that Mr Urs has the backing of a sizable section of the legislators. It may not immediately think of a change in leadership. But a major reshuffle of the Cabinet is on the cards.

Meanwhile, Mr S. Nijalingappa, former Chief Minister and Congress (O) leader, has challenged Mrs Indira Gandhi to go to the polls both at the Centre and in the States on the issue of the performance of the Congress governments. While denying the Prime Minister's charge that the opposition parties are exploiting the drought situation in the State, he has said that it is the State government which has adopted a callous and inhuman attitude in spite of warnings about the drought by all the political parties. He has also said that his party would continue the satyagraha it has launched in Gulbarga, Bijapur, and Bidar to focus attention on the inadequacy of relief works. If anything, he has said, the Central and State governments are responsible for the severe drought in the State.

TAMIL NADU

The Assembly had in its April session passed the Public Men (Criminal Misconduct) Bill after opposition parties except Mulsim League and the Forward Bloc staged a walk-out protesting against the government's refusal to withdraw the Bill. Leaders of these opposition parties—Congress (O), Congress, CPI, Swatantra, and ADMK—who participated in the general discussion of the Bill asked the government to drop the measure as it would muzzle public criticism against corrupt ministers.

Defending the Bill the Chief Minister Mr Karunanidhi said the government was keen on putting it on the statute book to cleanse the atmosphere "polluted" by the opposition charges of corruption against his ministry. The Bill would then be a valuable opportunity to bring the corrupt ministers to book. At the same time it would prevent them from making false and frivolous charges to tarnish the image of the ruling party.

He refuted the criticism that the Bill had been brought in to sidetrack the people's attention from the "charge-sheet" the CPI and ADMK leaders had submitted to the President. He said the charges listed by them were "vague' and the leaders themselves appeared to be not sure of what they had said. It was, therefore, too much to think that the public mind was exercised over the "charge-sheet" and the government tried to divert their attention.

Referring to Mr Mathialagan's remarks that "history was replete with instances of corrupt governments falling', Mr Karunanidhi said whether corrupt governments fell or not, the people of Tamil Nadu knew that "corrupt ministers were thrown out of power".

M. Karuanidhi

Non-image man

Mr Karunanidhi said that he was not against charges being made against ministers, but he was certainly opposed to false charges being bandied about. Those who made the charges must be bold enough to face the consequences.

Rickshaw-pullers all over Tamil Nadu will each receive a cycle rickshaw as a birthday gift of Chief Minister Mr Karunanidhi on June 3. There will be no more hand-drawn rickshaws in the State after the completion of the gift scheme on September 15, the birthday of the late Mr Annadurai.

Announcing this scheme recently, Mr Karunanidhi said that the scheme might cost about Rs 22 lakhs to distribute cycle rickshaws to about 2,000 rickshaw-pullers. He appealed to the "liberal-minded munificent public of Tamil Nadu who have been overwhelming in their response" to his appeals for his birthday gifts in previous years to contribute their mite.

Fifteen opposition members of the Bihar Assembly have defected to the Congress, raising the party's strength to 182 in the 318-member House.

●

Sangram Singh, who was the former Director of the City Palace Museum Jaipur and the main accused in the Jaipur museum painting theft case has been convicted on eight counts and sentenced to five years rigorous imprisonment and a fine of Rs 800.

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New Delhi News letter

Arvind Bhandari

Balraj Madhok

India scarcely has an opposition worth the name but, still, the party that comes next to Congress in size and influence is Jana Sangh. Accused of conservatism, obscurantism and communalism, Jana Sangh has been described as a retrogressive party. But, hitherto, one thing the party could not be accused of was lack of unity and intra-party discipline. Now that facade of unity has been broken.

Balraj Madhok

Mr Balraj Madhok, a notable former Jana Sangh president, has been expelled from the party, revealing deep fissures in it. The fight is mainly ideological. Learning from the bitter experience of repetitive mauling Jana Sangh has received at the hustings in the recent past, the party leaders have decided that Jana Sangh cannot acquire attractiveness for the poverty-stricken masses without some kind of a "socialistic" veneer. Accordingly, they have begun to give the party a radical orientation, as is evident from Jana Sangh's new postulates regarding ceiling on urban property and agricultural land..

Mr Madhok pooh-poohs this newfound Jana Sangh radicalism as so much poppycock, asserting that the party has everything to lose and nothing to gain by shedding its rightist image and "aping" Congress. He believes that Jana Sangh must remain in the vanguard of forces that constitute a rightist viable alternative to Congress in India.

The ideological differences have, however, been exacerbated by Mr Madhok's temperamental quirks. Roundly beaten in a Delhi constituency in the 1971 mid-term parliamentary poll, he came out with the fantastic theory that the ballot papers had been treated with invisible ink in the Soviet Union and that only Moscow-approved Jana Sangh candidates had been allowed to win. Not surprisingly, his assertion was rejected by the law court, apart from arousing the ire of his party colleagues.

While this correspondent holds no brief for Jana Sangh, or for that matter any other party, he has found that many India-watchers, both inside and outside the country, hold the view that the Jana Sangh split and the consequential weakening of the party are not a healthy development for Indian politics. An essential prerequisite for proper functioning of parliamentary democracy is that the party in power should be constantly subjected to the corrective of a strong viable opposition, which would keep the government on the rails in the larger interest of the governed. Since the opposition in India is already weak, any development that weakens it further is not to be welcomed.

Tarakeshwari Sinha

Another stormy petrel in Indian politics is Mrs Tarakeshwari Sinha, whose buxom good looks even today bespeak of the attraction she must have held in yesteryear. But Mrs Sinha's qualities begin, not end, with her physical attributes. She is articulate, forceful, dynamic, with a ready repetrtoire of Urdu couplets, which she flings at her political adversaries like arrows out of a quiver. Many in India feel that she would be a match for Mrs Indira Gandhi if she were not so hopelessly stuck on the sidelines.

Mrs Sinha has been a Deputy Finance Minister under Jawaharlal Nehru and has had an impressively long stint in Parliament, where she made a mark as a speaker who held attention with her devastating turn

Mrs Tarakeshwari Sinha

of phrase. When the Congress s... she went with the Old Co... Now out of both power and P... ment, perhaps because she is ... wrong end of the political spe... Mrs Sinha appears to be some... frustrated.

This correspondent saw her ... formance before an audience o... versity students. India, she ... was going to the dogs, and we... to elaborate on the theme with ... and anger. What was the pan... Students should take to politics... as one man and usher in revo... to sweep away all the muck.

When some students disagreed ... heckled her, Mrs Sinha, past-... that she is in winning the crowd... the ultimate female weapon—a... Immediately it was cheers aga... the way.

Subsequently, in an interview ... this correspondent, Mrs Sinha ... plained painstakingly that it w... duty of opposition leaders ... country to pick up the pieces ... hands to build a strong opposi... India. How could such a p... purpose be advanced by the ... rouser I had seen earlier in ... The question kept nagging me

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An Experimental Revue

Gopal Sharman and Jalabala Vaidya appear to be unconventional in their life-style and outlook to the extent of appearing bohemian, but they are undoubtedly talented bohemians.

Presently, they are engaged in a unique experiment in mini-theatre, which runs all night exposing foibles of the Indian scenario and enabling humourless Indians to laugh at themselves. The theatre, Akshara, though running for the last few months, was inaugurated on March 25. Akshara may well become a trail blazer in the Indian theatre world.

The most refreshing aspect about the revue, "Larflarflarf", currently being staged, is that parts of the script are changed almost every day, depending on the day's news. Often hilarious, sometimes satirical, this 100-minute revue mirors the ludicrous aspects of individuals.

No matter how depressing the mood of the country, Akshara can provide you with a "larf". It explained away India's hockey defeat as a gesture of goodwill to Mr Bhutto. This was in keeping with the spirit of the Simla agreement and was meant to strengthen Mr Bhutto's position in Pakistan. On reports about overcrowding by Indian officials at the Olympic village, Akshara remarked in its stage "telecast": "Some athletes have accompanied Indian officials to the Olympic Games". The revue is not anti-establishment alone. All sections of society are vulnerable to lampooning because of their fads and foibles; and this fact is never forgotten.

The main star in the revue is Jalabala Vaidya, an actress of distinction. Her school-going daughter, Anasuya, has an easy and confident stage presence. Gopal, of course, is at home with his lines.

Whether there are just two persons or 40 in the 50-seat theatre, Gopal, Jalabala and Anasuya perform with an unvarying degree of excellence. There is no ticket, but donations of Rs 5 towards the running expenses of the theatre from each guest are welcome. At the end of the show: soft drinks for all.

Gopal and Jalabala received rare notices during their tour abroad. While Gopal was hailed "as a new major poet", and his poetry compared to that of Satyajit Ray's work in films, Jalabala was described as another Isadora Duncan" by the Times critic in London.

They visited Italy, Yugoslavia, West Germany and Belgium in 1967 with Gopal's "Full Circle" (a repertoire of poems). The recital of

Jalabala Vaidya and Gopal Sharma

poems by Jalabala was broadcast by Radio Vatican, and Gopal became the first Indian poet to be thus honoured. Gopal's book, Filigree in Sound, on Indian music (with a foreword by Dr Narayana Menon), published by Andre Deutsch in London, received extremely favourable reviews by such eminent men as Lord Harewood.

Soon "Larflarflarf" will be substituted by "Full Circle" and that by "Sri Ram" (a rendering in English of the great Indian epic).

"We are also inviting young writers and poets to come to us with their work. If they come up to our expectations and their writing lends itself to being staged, we shall go ahead. We shall soon be putting on a new play written by a Delhi University student. It deals with unemployment among educated youth", Gopal said.

Any more takers?

Mrs Gandhi on Female Beauty

What is female beauty? Mrs Gandhi defined it in no uncertain terms while addressing the girls of Miranda House, which she visited on the 25th anniversary of the college on March 27.

I quote from Mrs Gandhi's speech: "Now, beauty is a very important part of life and it does not necessarily mean exactly what you look like, is not what you put on your face, but what is inside you. If you are not pretty inside, then when you grow older, it starts showing and there is nothing you can do about it then. Old ivory is much more beautiful than new ivory. There is no reason why women should not be more beautiful as they grow older and by the beauty which they have inside them, create beauty wherever they go".

"I think Indian women do have a special quality and we should not lose that quality. It does not mean that we have to be traditional in thinking, it just means that we should develop the qualities of sympathy, of understanding, of tolerance. If we develop these, I think we have a very special role to play in this country".

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir,

Hearty congrats to you on your two articles in the last issue of the Indian.

Your call for unification of the resources of the Community through a Council or Federation of all Indian sectional organisations in Hongkong is well-timed and if it materialises—and all of us hope so—will meet a long-felt need. Overseas Indians have the habit of withdrawing themselves into separatist sectional cocoons forgetting their identity as Indians but of stressing unduly their own sectional or ethnic identity fissipating their time and energy in unseemly pettifogging quarrels and clashes of personality. I hope the Indian Community in Hongkong will respond to your appeal and give a lead to overseas Indian Communities elsewhere.

Your introspective insight in "let me review" is interesting reading. The qualities of leadership and statesmanship come about only after one receives some knocks in life which round off certain inherent or acquired angularities in one's personality. The qualities of a leader include the ability to forget and forgive, to take under one's umbrella all differring opinions, to re-act magnanimously in times of stresses and challenges, above all, to avoid by word or deed, anything that hurts other's feelings and in fine, to lead and not be led. Humility, the acid test of one's capacity to rise above one's little self, which is so much evident in your review, let me hope, is a happy and auspicious harbinger of what yet is in store.

Koundinya.

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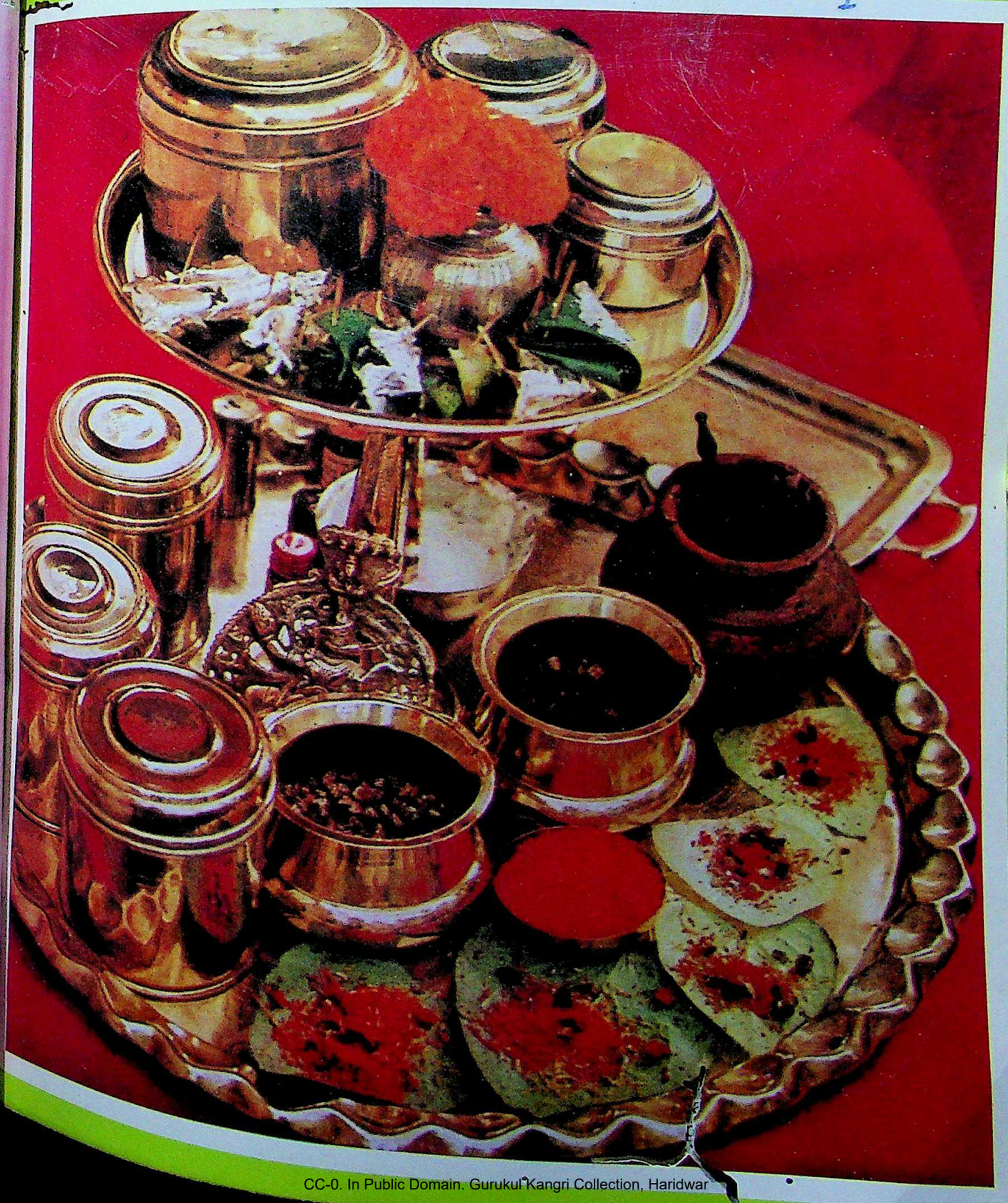

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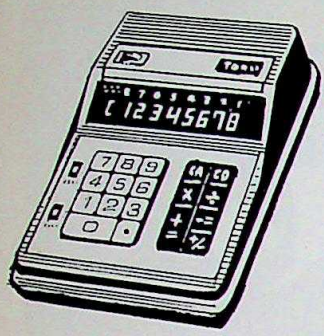

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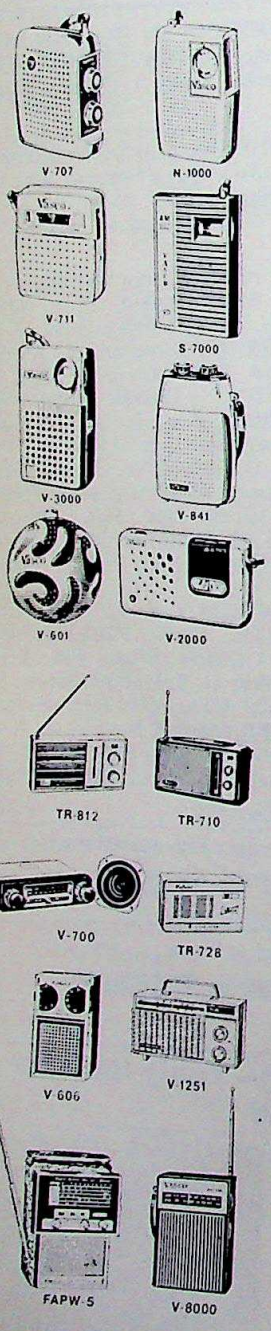

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Samaiki

Mrs. Indira Gandhi's Message

There is a standing dialogue between leaders of the Overseas Indians and Indian leaders who occasionally take trips abroad. The former asked what India is doing for the Overseas Indians, the latter querry what the Overseas Indian is doing for the country of his origin. It is egg and chicken mystery—ever present, always present.

The Overseas Indian is expected to act as an unofficial ambassador of his country, achieve better understanding with people of the country of adaption and forge cultural and social ties with people around the world. But today Mother India needs a different kind of service from its children abroad.

India is facing untold difficulties and the country is passing through difficult times. Not that other countries do not face similar difficulties or that this is first time India is facing such hardship. The question is how India is seen abroad. Many a time people outside India form an opinion which is based on superficial information they read in papers or hear from others. This spatial and shallow knowledge needs correction.

I recall Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's words when I met her in New Delhi. When I asked her in simple language, what she wanted us (the Overseas Indians) to do for the country, she said, "we have got a big country and we have big problems too. It is indeed a pity that too much talk and fuss is made in overseas countries about India's poverty. There is only one message I would like to convey to my fellow countrymen overseas." *"If you can help correct the image of India with proper explanation and appreciation of our gigantic problems, that in itself will be a signal contribution you all can make for this big and great country."*

On this occasion of Silver Jubilee of the Indian Independance let all Overseas Indians read Mrs. Gandhi's message and make a pledge that we would do our best to carry on the task which our Prime Minister has entrusted us and which we accept with all humility —we will present India's viewpoint to peoples of the world in its true and proper perspective.

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Viewpoint

K. N. Vaid

INDIA

Independence Day

Once again, on the Independence Day, the INDIAN sends its heartiest greetings to its readers in Hongkong, India and all over the world. Overseas Indians around the globe will be gathering at Indian missions or elsewhere to celebrate the occasion which is also the last day of the Indian Independence Silver Jubilee celebrations.

This is a very special Independence Day, for never before has India been in such great trouble, internally and internationally, around this time of the year. Domestically, price levels have touched new height and continue to rise every day. Food grain take-over policy has virtually failed. Exports, after showing up for a while, are steadily declining. The government seems to be at its wits' end and does not know what to do. Mrs Gandhi has been talking to all opposition party leaders but has failed to find either support or solution. Internationally, Indo-American relations have not improved much. Iran has emegred as another threat, China has been there for years. India can't unload Bangladesh from its back and Pakistan continues to be non-conciliatory. Foreign reserves are dwindling and defecit financing has reached its highest peak ever.

Mood of the people is changing fast and Mrs Gandhi's score board of popularity has only a few points on it. Her ministries fell in U.P., Orissa and Andhra. Chief Ministers of Bihar and Gujrat have been thrown away by the party almost against her will. She lost a few prestigeous elections in different parts of India—rather badly.

Independence Day in India this year is very special. India as well as her Government needs all he luck. We wish the best of everything for our brethren in India and pray that the country be out of the woods pretty soon.

HONG KONG

War on Crime

Hong Kong has declared war on crime. The entire community — which means the government and wealthy elite — are going all out to curb the evil that has plagued the Colony for so long. Some favourable results are already obvious and one could justifiably expect better results in the forthcoming weeks.

However, crime cannot be eliminated by supressing for conditions that lead people to commit crime are deep-rooted. Real solution lies in eliminating condition that lead people to criminal habits. In Hongkong, a whole generation has grown in unhealthy environment in hastily put up estates. Lack of open spaces around living quarters, congested houses that permit no privacy, break down in parental control due to both parents being out for work, absence of mother from home upto late in the evenings, education that lacks in social purpose, emphasis on money to the exclusion of all other values, lack of national identity etc. are some of the reasons that have often been found associated with high crime rate. Consequently, if Hongkong wishes to find a lasting solution to the crime problem, mere propaganda or public display of flogging horses can hardly make a dent. What Hongkong needs is better housing for its people, creative recreation, suppression of sexy and violent films, a system of education that permits development of pupils' personalities and not merely gives them pieces of papers to be framed and displayed in offices, supervised group activity for youth, shorter working hours for mothers and abolition of night work for women and children, a measure of social security etc. All this means aportioning of more public funds for social expenditure, developing a cadre of imaginative local administrators and subordinating money as the sole value to other values. It also requires that the local elite set precedent, through personal example, of higher morality and social responsibility.

Anti-crime campaign is a laudible effort and it deserve all support from every one. But this, by itself, is not enough. The campaign should be followed by positive steps to attack the problem at grass roots.

AFRICA

Soft hands provide cover

Some time back, a senator from an African Country declared contemptously that he will never marry an Indian girl because "they have very soft hands." Another African leader once said that existence of devil

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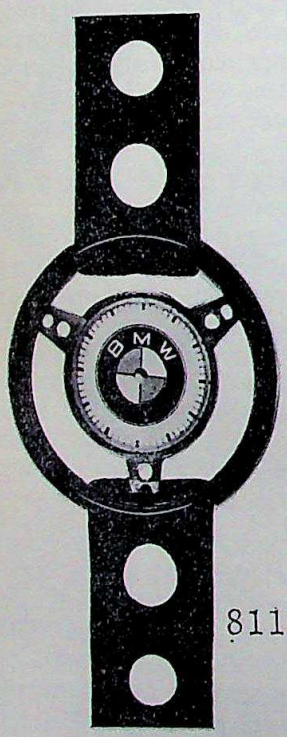

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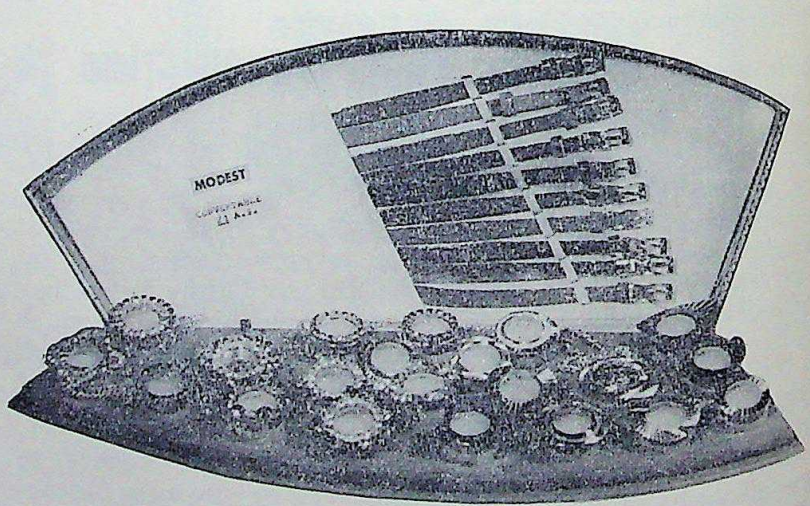

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is proved by the fact that Indians are found in his country. That these very leaders have often plundered their countries in order to be able to hold the soft hand of a slut in London or Chicago is besides the point. The patent prejudice underlying such utterances smacks of intolerance, betrays ignorance devoid of a desire to find solutions to minorities problems in the Continent.

Early Indian settlers did not go to Africa on their free will. They were forcibly taken there by the British to perform dirty chores of empire building. Once there, Indians worked hard, created country after country out of dense forests, laid transportation system, built shopping complexes, staffed offices, and did all that was required to make places habitable. Ironically, most of them did not have money even to buy back their passages. The British took the cream and African drank skim milk, Indian was left high and dry; left to his fate in a foreign land to fend for himself. If the Indian built himself up from a state of destitution, it only testifies to his perseverance, hard work and instinct to survive under all conditions.

When India became free, Jawaharlal Jawaharlal Nehru counselled Overseas Indians to one passport, one country and one loyalty. Many Indians took this advice and became nationals of various African countries. They did their best to build new countries and promote African interests but were still treated as aliens. Many others stuck to their British passports. The new rulers did very little to bring Indian minorities within the national folds, they displayed open hostility toward Indians and still do so.

A common African complaint against Indians is that the latter do not integrate with the former. The yard stick of integration is taken to be inter racial marriages, particularly Indian girls marrying African boys. Indians seem to be acceptable to Africans on no other terms.

If boys and girls from different racial groups wish to intermarry, there can be no objection to it. It could also an acceptable preposition that they should do so in order to make an integrated society. But to force young people to inter marry across racial groups is inhuman, to use inter marriage as the sole indicator of integeration is totally unjustified. It is through better and imaginative school system, sharing of common social facilities like clubs, play grounds, community centres etc., and intensive social education schemes that integration could be made possible.

African belongs to Africans—all those who live there and hold passports of African countries. Africa is not synonymous with black race. Browns and whites have equal rights and responsibilities there, if they are nationals of African countries. If black majority wants to push out brown minorities, it will be guilty of international crime and of violation of human rights.

Prejudice should not take precedence over sanity. If an Indian is accused of illegal money transfer or of divided loyalty, he should be tried in a law court constituted according to international conventions. And similar action should be taken against Africans — high or low—for similar allegations. The difficulty is that a thief finds it possible become an accuser as well as a judge. Soft hands merely provide a cover.

IRAN

Old game fresh fields

During the last few weeks, a few subtle but significant developments took places that have the potential to change the pattern of trade, balance of power and known allignments of countries on the Indian sub-continent and around the Indian Ocean. Iran went on a shopping spree of military hardware and placed order on America for supply of 108 Phantoms, 10 jet tankers, 700 helicopters, 14 hover crafts, 800 tanks, 26 warships, 100 fighter planes and 2 air-sea bases—cost 3 billion US dollars. When supplies are completed, Iran will emerge the most armed country in the region—armed by America. Iraq is allegedly being armed by Russia and India has been accused of training Iraqi army and airforce. India is already under the military cover of Russia through a 20 years agreement which indirectly covers Bangladesh as well. The new Government of Afganistan is known to be supporter of Pakhtoonistan sought to be created by further dismembering Pakistan which the Shah of Iran has vowed never to let happen. India and Iran emerge as the two strong competing forces in South Asia and the near Middle East. Despite India's efforts to promote friendship with Iran and Swaran Singh has been there recently—the Shah remain cool to her but has warmed up toward China.

The future pattern of balance of power in the region will have to be watched with interest. The immediate effect of developing politics in the region is that trade between India and Iran and trade conducted with Iran by Overseas Indian firms is likely to suffer. A similar situation is likely to prevail regarding the export of Afgan products. As the Indo-Pak-Bangla stalemate continues unabated, no change in trade pattern could be expected there also. Visiting businessmen and long time traders in the region advise cautious trading activity with Iran, wait and see policy regarding Afganistan and unchanged pattern on the Indian sub-continent.

Trade, these days, is very much dependent on inter-country relations and slight upleaval at one place cause a chain reaction everywhere. And political situation is taking a turn for the worse. America and Russia are playing the old game, only arena has shifted, and chairman Mao is looking at development with caution and hope. Politics and trade are inseparable indeed.

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Asians in East & South Africa

by: Pierre L. Van den Berghe

Close to one million descendants of immigrants from the Indian sub-continent now live in Africa, some 95 per cent of them are found in South and East Africa. A little over half million Asians live in South Africa, mostly in Durban, Pietermaritzburg, the coastal belt of Natal, and the industrial complex of the Witwatersrand in and around Johannesburg. Kenya, with an Asian population of some 170,000 comes in second place, the largest concentrations being found in the country's two large cities, Nairobi and Mombasa. Uganda and Tanzania each had Asian communities of 80,000 to 100,000, which were likewise heavily concentrated in the urban areas, principally Kampala and Dar es Salaam. Much smaller groups are also found in Zimbabwe, Zambia, Malawi, Mozambique, Ruanda, Burundi, Somalia and the eastern Congo, but, as all these communities together total less than 50,000 people. Only in Malawi, where they number some 11,000, do they play a significant economic role.

Step-Children of British Empire

Indians have influenced the history of the East African coast for many centuries. In numerical terms, however, the Indian diaspora was principally a 19th and 20th century phenomenon. Indians followed the British flag, usually under three to five year indenture, wherever their colonial master found the need to replace slaves with cheap and reliable 'ccolie' labour in order to grow sugar or build railways. Thus, groups of peasants and townsmen seeking to escape the poverty and hunger of colonial India, became the unwilling auxiliaries of British imperialism in places as far flung as Guiana, the West Indies, Fiji, Mauritius, South Africa and Kenya.

In some of the island societies, such as Mauritius and Fiji, Asians came to outnumber the indigenous population. But in Africa, these stepchildren of the British Empire were left stranded as tiny, powerless minorities at the mercy, in South Africa, of a tyrannical albinocracy, and in East Africa, of equally hostile black majorities. In South Africa, Asians constitute 3 percent of the total population and are by far the smallest of the four racial groups. In Kenya, Asians, although over three times as numerous as the Europeans, only make up about 2 per cent of the total. In Uganda and Tanzania, Indians numbered a bare 1 per cent.

To refer to the Asians of Africa as a 'community' is rather misleading, because they are fragmented into a multiplicity of religious, linguistic and caste groups. They include Hindus, Sunni and Shi'a Muslims, Sikhs, Jains, Roman Catholics, and Protestants, not to mention the sects and sub-sects. They speak north Indian languages like Hindustani, Urdu and Gujerati and south Indian tongues like Tamil and Telugu. Among Muslims, sectarian membership forms the basis of communal organization; among Hindus, Varna (the four classical castes) and Jati (caste), while less important than in India, still constitute lines of cleavage between endogamous groups.

Yet there is a sense in which African Asians are, in fact, a community. In colonial days in East Africa, they were a racial group of intermediate status between the conial masters and the 'natives'. In South Africa they are still in that position. By now, it is a cliche to refer to Asians as the 'Jews of Africa'. Many complex, stratified societies have their 'Jews', i.e. their scapegoated, parish minorities of 'middlement'. Indonesia has its Chinese; Nigeria has the Ibo; East and South Africa have 'their' Indians. (only destitution, I suppose, saves the Palestinian Arabs from becoming the 'Jews' of Israel; as it stands, they are just its 'aborigines').

The Asian 'community' of South or East Africa is, thus, almost entirely a product of outside forces in the larger society. The common burden of racial segregation and other legal disabilities; the fear of possible violence; the shared experience of rejection, prejudice and scapegoating on the part of Europeans and Africans; the broad similarity of a socio-economic position half way between the affluent Europeans and the destitute Africans; these are the bases of what little solidarity and group consciousness exists among Asians. Still, the homogenous image which most Europeans or Africans have of Asians is very inaccurate one. Even fear of violence and political uncertainty have not been

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sufficient to overcome sectarianism and narrow communalism.

Similarities

Let us review briefly some of the similarities and differences between the position of Asians in South and East Africa. In spite of substantial dissimilarities between East and South African Asians in history, religious and linguistic composition, occupational and economic status, and political make-up of the host society, the fundamental likeness of their socio-economic position is nevertheless striking. At the risk of belabouring what is already well known, let me list some of these similarities.

From coolies to merchants

Both groups went from one part of the British Empire to another. The majority of the South African Asians came as unskilled or semi-skilled workers under contracts of indenture of three to five years' duration. In East Africa, some 32,000 indentured workers were brought in to build the Mombasa-Kisumu railway between 1896 and 1902, but only 6,724 of them elected to stay in Africa after completion of their term of service, and the vast majority of East African Asians are descendants of skilled free immigrants.

In both regions, Asians experienced, for the most part, a substantial rise in economic and social status. Many came from destitute and low status groups in India, and, in relation to the British, they were mere 'natives'. In East and South Africa, their living standards gradually rose, and they came to occupy a middle position in the racial hierachy between the Europeans and Africans.

Buffer between Black & White

The host societies were in both cases virulently racist colonial regimes with an entrenched white settler community. Consequently, Asians found themselves in a view type of caste system based on skin pigmentation. Although they experienced 'upward mobility' vis-a-vis their position in India, they also encountered a ceiling on that mobility; they become the victims of legal and customary discrimination and of a strong 'anti-semitic' type of prejudice. They were allowed to move up into the middle echelons of society, but only to become prisoners of their new ascribed caste status. As an intercalary group, Asians became a buffer between Europeans and Africans, a convenient scapegoat for both, and a highly visible stumbling-block in the way of African 'advancement'.

City dwellers

The Asians of Africa a highly urban group. In all four countries under consideration, Asians are between 80 and 90 per cent urban. In this respest, they are like the European group, and unlike both the Africans and the parent population of India and Pakistan. Some South African Indians became small cane growers or market gardeners, and a few East African Asians gained a foothold in sisal and sugarcane plantations. However, stringent restrictions on land acquisition by Asians, and concentration in mercantile, service, clerical and industrial occupations combined to make most African Indians urban dwellers. This is even truer in East Africa where there is no equivalent to the South African class of small farmers and market gardeners in coastal Natal.

Tiny minorities

Demographically, the Asians remained small minorities, in part because of severe limitations on immigration once Africans replaced them in low-skill occupations. However, the combination of a high degree of urbanization, relative wealth (especially in East Africa), physical distinctiveness, enforced ghettorization, exotic culture and style of dress, and exclusivistic familism and sectarianism made Asians in Africa a highly visible minority. Thus, tiny minorities of 1 to 3 per cent of their respective countries' population have so profoundly influenced the appearance of large cities such as Kampala, Nairobi, Der es Salam and Durban as to create the impression of 'little Bombays'. Paradoxically, a group as geographically, economically, culturally and socially hemmed in by the larger society has unwittingly created the impression of physical omnipresence, economic affluence and occult omnipotence. Such is the power of distortion of racial prejudice.

Exclusive & Self sufficient

Rejected and hated by Europeans and Africans alike, denied assimilation into the 'Herrenvolk' and disdaining assimilation into an indigenous culture which they regarded as inferior, Asians have been thrown back on their own resources to provide basic services such as education, and they have sought security and self-respect in introverted ghetto existence, thereby further reinforcing anti-Indian stereotypes of clannishness, exclusivism, conservatism and inadaptability. Treated as a pariah caste, Asians organized their ghetto existence along pre-existing lines of solidarity, i.e. religion, language and jati. Hindus maintained, albeit in simplified form, a caste system within a caste system. Within the Asian ghetto, walls of religious sectarianism, regional and linguistic chauvinism, and caste snobbery, fragmented the minority into a bewildering diversity of little endogamous and mutually mistrustful groups. The Asian 'community' is, in fact, a culturally modified (and often improverished) microcosm of the great Indian kaleidoscope. This sectarianism within the Asian community was further fostered by colonial policies of 'communal representation' in East Africa and 'separate development' in South Africa. Each segment of the Asian group developed its places of worship, its schools, its

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voluntary associations, its charitable organizations, in short, its own set of self-contained institutions. The challenges of white racism and the influence of Mahatma Gandhi have sometimes led Indians to transcend sectarianism in the political sphere, and certain groups such as the Ismailis of East Africa have been known for their more open and cosmopolitan outlook, but generally, the Asian response to prejudice and victimization has been indrawn fragmentation, and withdrawal to the security of the primary groups: extended family, religious sect, and caste, Common victimization and stigmatization were not enough to draw people together.

In the last analysis, whichever way Asians reacted to outside conditions mattered (and continues to matter) very little as far as either Europeans or Africans were concerned. To be Asian in Africa means that one is always wrong. Hopes that this state of affairs might change after independence in East Africa have not materialized. In politics, when Asians collaborated with the Europeans they were blocking African aspirations; when they sided with Africans, as they frequently did, they were being opportunistic in anticipation of independenec; when they tried to keep out of the conflicts, they were sitting on the fence. After independence in East Africa, those Asians who did not opt for local citizenship were accused of disloyalty; those who did were suspected of opportunism, and were still discriminated against on racial grounds.

Such then are some of the main similarities between and South African Asians. As we have seen, similarities are, to a large extent, the product of the external constraints imposed by the racially stratified and pluralistic societies in which African Asians found themselves. Later, we shall examine the crux of the 'Asian problem', i.e. the historical reasons for the socio-economic position of Asians in Africa, the vicious circle of anti-Indian prejudice and discrimination, and the complex dynamics of race relations in the plural societies of East and South Africa. But before we do so, we must turn briefly to some of the sailent differences between East and South Africa.

Dissimiliarities

The 'historical depth' of the Asian population is different in the two region. In East Africa, the Indian presence dates back some 2,000 to 3,000 years. However, until the 19th century, it was confined to the coastal strip and probably did not involve more than small, scattered groups of merchants in the seaports and transient sailors. Nevertheless, by the late 19th century, Zanzibar and Mombasa each had a few thousand Indian residents. Many of their descendants today are fluent in Swahili and have adopted some of the coastal Swahili culture.

In South Africa, on the other hand, there is no evidence of Indian influence or immigration prior to 1860, and today South Africa, African Asians bear scarcely a trace of indigenous culture. Unlike the many East African Asians who speak at least some Swahili, very few South African Indians know Zulu, Xhosa or Sotho.

The Indian community of South Africa grew almost entirely by natural increase. In East Africa, immigration may have accounted for as much as 43 per cent of the Asian population increase from 1948 to 1963. Over 90 per cent of South African Indians are African-born, compared to only 60 to 65 per cent of East African Asians.

Westernization

The consequences of this difference in the length of African experience are readily apparent. If one excludes of the Goans who were already quite westernized in India, and the Ismailis with their dynamic modernist leadership, East African Asians are much less Westernized and more traditional than their respective groups in South Africa. In the latter country, most Asians below the age of 40 speak English as their home language, and seldom is any language other than English used between Indians in public places. Children have all but forgotten Indian language, and are sometimes barely able to converse with their grandparents. Hindu religious practices are mostly limited to rituals performed by women at home, to weddings, to funerals and to the celebration of Diwali. Caste endogamy is breaking down fast. For example, in a coastal town of Natal which is probably among the more traditional in South Africa, it was found that in a sample of 308 marriages, 26 per cent were between spouses of different castes, and eight percent were between couples of different varnas.

This situations is in sharp contrast to the more traditional behaviour of East African Asians. Among them, Hindustani, Panjabi and Gujerati are commonly spoken both at home and in public places. English is, of course, the lingua franca of professionals and intellectuals, but many Asians speak only limited English. Caste endogamy and Hindu religious practices are reported by Bharati to be observed in a much more orthodox manner than in South Africa, although commensality restrictions have largely disappered in both regions. Insofar as East African Asians have departed from traditional Indian culture, they have become Africanized as well as Europeanized, whereas in South Africa the African influence is negligible and the European one very strong. The spread of Swahili as the most widely understood lingua franca of eastern Africa and the official tongue of Tanzania is perhaps the most important factor in the gradual Africonization of East African Asians, especially those who live in the coastal and island communities of Mombasa, Dar es Salaam and Zanzibar. South

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African Asians, on the other hand, are increasingly becoming English-speaking South Africans.

Religion & language

A second important difference concerns the internal linguistic and religious composition of South and East African Indians. In terms of religion, both regions have majority of Hindus, but East Africa is far more diverse than South Africa. In addition to Hindus, Muslims and Christians who are represented in both areas, East Africa also has substantial Sikh and Jain communities. Hindus, who number over two-thirds of South African Indians, constitute a bare but growing majority of the African Asians. Muslims are proportionately more important in East Africa but sectarian splits between Sunnis and Shi'as, and among the Shi'as, between Ismailis, Boharas and others, are far more pronounced than in South Africa. East African Sikhs and Goan Catholics also constitute skilled and influential sections of the Asian population which have no counterparts in South Africa.

Linguistically, South Africa is the more diverse of the two areas. In East Africa, the related north Indian languages (Gujerati, Urdu and Hindustani) are by far the most important. In South Africa, Hindi and Tamil each account for 35 to 40 per cent of the Asians, with Telugu, Gujerati and Urdu as relatively small minorities. These linguistic differences, especially the split between the unrelated northern and southern Indian languages has probably accelerated Anglicization in the absence of a common Indian language. Thus, English was adopted quite early as the medium of instruction in Asian schools. The north-south distinction splits the South African Hindu community down the middle because, beyond language diversity, there are also important differences in religious ritual and in system of kinship and marriage. For example, the Tamil and Telugu have preferential cross-cousin marriage, a custom which north Indians regard as highly incestuous under the rule of sapinda exogamy.

Merchant class

Socio-economically, there is a marked difference in both the relative and the absolute position of East and South African Indians. In absolute terms, East African Asians are much better off than their South African counterparts. This is immediately apparent if one compares the Asian occupational structure of the two areas. In South Africa, only some 25 per cent of the Indians in the labour force engage in commerce, and 3 per cent in the professions. Nearly 30 percent work in secondary industry, a third of those being unskilled and another third semi-skilled. Some 10 per cent are domestic servants, and 17 per cent engage in agriculture, mostly as small-scale market gardeners or small cane growers. South African Asians constitute only 8 per cent of the total labour force employed in commerce, compared to 85 per cent for the Europeans. From these figures, it is obvious that the Asian merchant class controls only a small proportion of the country's trade, and make up only a fourth of the Indian population. Most of the South African Asians are small farmers, industrial workers and domestic servants whose economic standing is only marginally above that of the Africans. The Asian professional and semi-professional class is proportionately larger that the African one but very small in relation to the European one. As to the clerical and white-collar occupations and the skilled manual trades, Asians are virtually debarred from them by 'custom' or legislation.

Earnings

In terms of per capita or family income, South African Asians are closer to the Africans than to the Europeans. They earn on the average some two and a half times as much as Africans, but only one sixth as much as the Europeans. Most of the social services, welfare grants, educational expenditures and the like are based on a racial scale whereby Asians and Coloureds receive approximately twice as much per capita as Africans and one fifth as much as Europeans. Numerous pieces of discriminatory legislation such as the Group Areas Act, the Asiatic Land Tenure and Indian Representation Act, the Mines and Works Act, the Extension of University Education Act, and many others have restricted Indians from purchasing land or residing anywhere except in small segregated areas; prevented them from entering all universities except a segrated and government-controlled college; expriated and evicted owners and tenants who lived in the "white' parts of towns; attempted to restrict Asian traders to an Asian clientele; prohibited entry and movement of Asians through several parts of the country such as the Transkei and the Orange Free State; debarred Asians from many occupations (including skilled manual trades) which are reserved for whites; and generally subjected Indians to a multitude of crippling and humiliating apartheid restrictions. (yet, compared to the legal status of Africans, Asians are well off, for they do not have to carry "passes', and they have some freehold rights).

Sandwiched & squeezed

Thus, South African Asians have been sandwiched in between the Europeans and Africans, but the squeeze has been much tighter than in East Africa. The major reason is that the much larger European population (nearly one fifth of South Africa's total and six and a half times as numerous as the Indians) has deliberately tried to prevent the upward mobility of all non-Europeans, in the process of reserving for itself virtually all the best jobs, it has kept Asians as well as Coloureds and Africans in a lowly, non-competitive position. The very size of the

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European population has meant that the ceiling on non-white mobility has been much lower than anywhere else in colonial Africa, in spite of much greater opportunities created by an advanced industrial economy. Consequently, Asians found themselves squeezed in a narrow zone slightly above the Africans, in those occupations in which they could compete favourably with the Africans, but which were too lowly to be attractive to the Europeans.

By comparison, the lot of East African Asians was enviable during the colonial era, and, in some respects, it has become even more so since independence. In the British territories, Asians were subjected to the humiliation of racial segregation, to discriminatory restrictions on immigration and land purchase, and to a tyrannical government which granted them a mockery of representation along communal lines. They were debarred from the top administrative positions, and, in Kenya, from cash crop agriculture, but the broad middle range of urban occupations and the whole commercial sector was theirs to conquer. There was racial ceiling but it was quite high, if only because there were so few whites to sit on top of them. Thus, in South Africa, all non-whites have been pushed down by the dominant Europeans and confined to a narrow and depressed intermediate stratum. In colonial East Africa, the British allowed the Asians to fill the broad occupational vacuum between themselves and the Africans; and by rapidly filling that vacuum, the Asians effectively blocked African advancement and unwittingly lowered the ceiling for Africans to a level which, until the 1950s, was nearly as low as it still is for black South Africans.

The present socio-economic position of East African Asians is still much as it was during the colonial regime. Asians earn approximately six times as much per employee as Africans, and, considering that proportionately many more Asians are in wage employment than Africans, the actual discrepancy is much greater than this. Compared to Europeans, Asians earn a little over one third as much. If one compares the position of Asians in East and South Africa, relative to the other racial groups in these respective countries, we find, in gross terms, that East African are economically twice as near to the Europeans and twice as far from the Africans as their South African counterparts. In East Africa, Asians are truly in a middle-class position; they are not, as in South Africa, a somewhat less under-privileged segment of the helotry.

The occupational structure of East Africa makes this difference with South Africa quite clear. In 1961, the Asians who constituted a little over 1 per cent of the professional and 50 per cent of the professional, technical and managerial manpower of the three countries. Between 45 and 50 per cent of the Asian working population engages in commerce, banking and insurance. The rest are found as skilled artisans in manufacturing and construction; as clerks, typists and other white-workers in the public services; as managers, professionals and semi-professionals; and in variety of non-domestic services. Until independence, Asian merchants virtually monopolized East African wholesale and retail trade (compared to a share of at most five per cent of South African commerce); Asian enterpreneurs controlled substantial sectors of industry and finance; and in Uganda and Tanzania they played important roles in the sugar and sisal plantations, and in the marketing of cotton. They still occupy a greatly disproportionate place in both the enterpreneurial and mercantile bourgeoisie and in the white-collar and managerial middle class, even though most of the largest firms are still under European (mostly British) control.

Political organisation

Politically, the response of the two Asian communities has also been rather different. South Africa has by far the longer history of organized resistance to oppression. Under the towering influence of Mahatma Gandhi, South Africans of Indian ancestry have opposed white minority rule since the 1890s. One year after Gandhi's arrival in Durban in 1893, the Natal Indian Congress (which later became the South African Indian Congress) was founded, and from 1907-13 thousands of Asians took part in the world's first Satyagraha campaign. South Africa was in a real sense the birthplace of Indian and Pakistani freedom, as an important source of influence in the US civil rights movement, and the political emanicpation of Africa. It all began in 1893 when Gandhi was rudely told to get out of a first-class train coach in Pietermaritzurg, Natal.

Militant South African

Ironically, even militant opposition to apartheid in South Africa has been along racially segregated lines, and the Indian Congress was no exception. However, the Indian Congress collaborated with the African National Congress from the time of its foundation in 1912, and consistently subscribed to the democratic aims of the African leaders. After the Second World War, the Indian Congress Alliance, the main freedom movement of the 1950s. Indian leaders exerted considearble ideological influence on radical South African opposition politics; most leaders have consistently rejected the principle of communal representation, and boycotted elections on segregated rolls. Instead, they joined African leaders in demanding one-man/one-vote in a non-racial South Africa. In spite of its militancy and its small membership, the South African Indian Congress has been broadly representaive of the Asian population.

Naturally not all South African Indians are radical and militant. Some joined groups to the right of the Congress Alliance, such as the Natal Indian Organization and the Liberal Party. Many are

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politically apathetic or fearful to become involved, as is true of the majority of most human groups. Collectively, however, South Africans of Indian origin have a distinguished heritage of courageous, non-violent resistance to injustice and tyranny. South African politics also have a record of universalism and non-sectraianism which contrasts sharply with white politics in that country.

East African Asians also organized themselves politically along racial lines. The Kenya Indian National Congress was founded in 1914. In Uganda and Tanganyika, Asians constituted respectively the Central Council of Indian Association and the Asian Association. As in South Africa, these movements have generally opposed racial discrination and favoured more democratic institutions. And, as in South Africa, they were politically self-defeating in that to the extent that they were sucessful in achieving their goals, they could look forward not to political power but merely to a change of masters. This predicament was inherent in the political organization of a tiny minority along racial lines.

Conservative East African

Yet, despite the fact that in neither region did Asians ever hope to gain power for themselves, their politics were rather different. With some individual exceptions, the mainstream of Asian politics in East Africa was more conservative and sectarian than in South Africa. It is true that, in the 1920s, Kenya Asians boycotted elections on the basis of communal representation, and that, as independence was approaching, some radical Indian leaders identified with African demands, as shown for example by the creation of the Kenya Freedom Party for the 1960 election. Generally, however, Asian leadership opposed the white settlers but followed a policy of extracting concessions from the colonial government by collaborating with it, however grudgingly. By 1931, Kenya Asians had reluctuantly accepted communal representation (not only 'qua' Asians, but also along religious lines), and made whatever use they could of their small, undemocratic representation in the legislative Council. The colonial government, on its part, officiously dealt with the Asian organizations as intermediaries between itself and the Asian Communities. The South African Indian Congress was a radical movement; its East African counterparts were reformist.

Sectarianism and sectionalism in East African Asian politics were, of course, in good measure a product of the British policy of divide and rule and of communal representation along racial and religious lines. Thus, Indian Muslims, as a minority within a minority, came increasingly to favour sectional representation in the 1940s. The independence and partition of India in 1947 further exacerbated these divisions, and the Indian National Congress itself split along religious lines as a consequence. By contrast, the South African Indian Congress by consistently refusing any "representation' along communal lines avoided sectarianism in politics.

The Kenya war of independence, and the accelerating pace of change in the late 1950s led a few Indian radicals to side with Africans, but the dominant reaction was one of increasing fear and ambivalence towards African demands. The British colonial government was discriminatory and racist, but it was known antagonist which had allotted the Asian group a definite and somewhat privileged pigeonhole in the caste society of East Africa. The future under African rule, on the other hand, was unspecial constitutional and electoral entrenchment to protect the position of racial minorities. Even where leaders found it expedient to endorse publicly the cause of majority rule, they shared, for the most part, the private misgivings of most Asians.

There are two main reasons for the different political reactions of South and East African Indians. The first one, and perhaps the main one, is the contrast in their class positions. A mercantile and professional bourgeoisie, to which most East African Indians belong, can scarcely be expected to be very radical. East African Asians were periahs in the colonial society, but they were privileged pairahs who were given a fairly free hand to trade and grow moderately prosperous. They had more to lose to Africans than they had to gain from the British. In South Africa, this was not the case for most Asians. Most Indians have little to lose and much to gain from the abolition of apartheid. Interestingly, the small Natal merchant class which does have something to lose formed the Natal Indian Organization which, in its policy of accommodation and conservatism, is a closer analogue to the Kenya Indian National Congress.

The second reason for the political differences between South and East African is that, in South Africa, Indians were offered so little in the way of franchise and representation that there was little temptation to accept it. The ludicrous parody of 'representation' they were offered in 1946, for example, meant that they could boycott the elections without any practical cost, and thereby avoid the plague of sectionalism. In East Africa, Asians had numerical preponderance vis-vis Europeans. They could exercise somewhat more pressure on the colonial government, and the latter was in turn distinct from the white settlers. There was the possibility which did not exist in South Africa, of turning towards the government while opposing the white settlers. In other words, in East Africa, and especially in Kenya, there was more to be gained by compromise. Certainly, at the stage of evolution in the late 1940s and the 1950s when the principle of racial parity among the unofficial members of the Legislative Council was introduced, the colonial framework had become relatively attractive by giving Asians vast over-representation vis-a vis Africans.

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albeit under-representation vis-a-vis Europeans. In fact, that period marked the heyday of what little political power Asians ever had in East Africa.

Where you take gin and tonic

The last major difference, and the most obvious one, between East and South African Indians is that the former now live under an African majority government and the latter are still under white minority rule. What difference has independence made to the status of Asians? Was the change of political masters to their benefit. The answer is that, although there have been substantial changes, some of them have been for the better and some for the worse. On balance, the Asians are still a parish group caught between the white devil and the deep black sea. Independence has meant the abolition of the colour bar in public and semi-public places. Asians in Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania may now enter clubs, schools, hotels and other amenities formerly closed to them. They are no longer subjected to the constant petty humiliations of European racism and apartheid. This has been the principal gain since Independence, but for practical purposes, only the intellectual, professional and managerial elite have benefited from the change. The small shopkeeper, the artisian and the clerk care very little whether they can join the golfclub or have a gin and tonic at the New Stanley Hotel. Another benefit of independence to Asians has been the opening up of the former 'white highlands' of Kenya which made it possible for a number of Asians to buy previously European-owned farms.

In practice the amount of interaction between the three racial groups in East Africa remains almost as low as before independence, except for some formal social mixing at the elite level. Racism in all the three main population groups is probably as high as ever, although the outward expression of anti-African prejudice Europeans have probably become somewhat more tolerant of Asians since they themselves are no longer politically dominant. But anti-Asian feelings on the part of Africans are as virulent as ever. East African governments claim to discriminate on the basis of citizenship, but in fact, there is a great deal of specifically racial discrimination against Asians in employment and trade licensing. Racial discrimination and anti-Asian statements by MPs and high government officials are especially blatant in Kenya. Even the threat of physical violence looms as large as under white rule, and these threats materialized in the 1964 Zanzibar revolution.

Indians in East Africa are still in a much better position than in South Africa. Racial discrimination is much less blatant and is not legally entrenched; compulsory racial segregation has disappeared; political rights are based on citizenship rather than colour; and economically, the new restrictive policies on immigration, employment, land acquisition.

POEM BY A 7 YEARS OLD

Atul

The rains came
The rains went
They came but
they never went
I was sad and
that does not
mean glad
If it does Ill
still be sad
because the rains
will came agun (?)

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Short Story

THE REVENGE

Your rate yourself very high.

I will get a bouncing son by

you who will horse-whip you

and teach you good manners.

Taken from Somadeva's Katha Sarit Sagara. Somadeva lived in the 11th century in Kashmir. His stories were translated from Sanskrit to English by C. H. Tawney & published in 10 volumes for private circulation.

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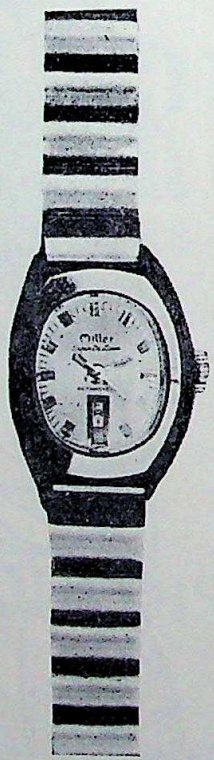

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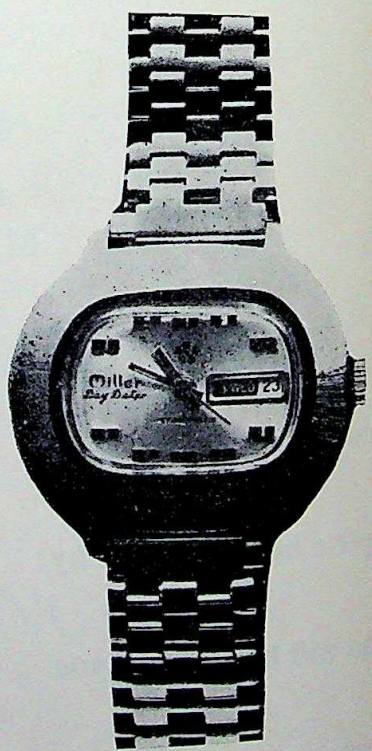

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Once upon a time, there reigned in the kingdom of Magadha, a just and powerful king and he had a son named Uddalaka. The young prince was brave and handsome, and hunting was his favourite sport.

One day, while the prince was returning on horseback from a hunt in a forest, he came to a village where he saw a beuatiful maid drying sesame in the sun. More than the beauty and the captivating features of the village belle, it was a certain defiance in her look and bearing that interested the prince. He felt like teasing the girl, and so asked her: 'Born in sesame and brought up on its oil, can you tell me, pretty maid, what flower is smaller than the sesame?'

The girl took this as a mean jest about her low birth in an oilmonger's family, and retorted: 'Born of a flower and brought up on its honey, can you tell me, O rider, what flower has two petals?'

Uddalaka thought it impertinent on the part of an oilmonger's daughter to talk to the crown prince of the realm in this manner. He certainly knew the answer to the girl's question, for the eye is universally reckoned a lotus with two petals, but he disdained to reply to the girl. 'To whom are you married,' he asked instead.

'What woman with self-respect would care to marry and be the slave of a man?' She wished to know.

All this was leading nowhere, and the prince thought that the behaviour of the girl was going beyond the limits of rustic ignorance. Perhaps she did not know what he was. "Do you know whom you are talking to?" he asked bluntly and rather haughtily.

'If I am not mistaken,' replied the girl, 'I am talking to the Crown Prince of Magadha, the dread of the rats and rabbits of the woods.'

The prince became furious. 'This is treason,' he shouted; 'and you will marry no man; but rest assured, I will marry you and, what is more, on the wedding ady itself shall confine you in a dungeon, and you shall perish there.'

'You rate yourself very high, Your Highness,' said the girl calmly; 'but if ever you marry me, and denying me conjugal rights, consign me to a dungeon, rest assured I will get a bouncing son by you who will horse-whip you and teach you good manners!'

The prince could hardly breathe for rage and rode off. Reaching the palace, he immediately sought his father and expressed a wish to marry the oilmonger's daughter. The prince was already married to several young women of high birth, and the king pointed out to him the undesirability of bringing disgrace on his royal house by marrying an oilman's daughter. But the stubborn prince persisted in his demand and even threatened to leave home and parents and take to oilmongering in order to marry the girl! Thus pressed, the king agreed to Uddalaka's proposal.

When the royal messengers, bearing presents, came to the oilmonger with the marriage proposal, the man who had known nothing of what had happened between the prince and his daughter, leapt for joy and informed the girl about it. She, however, showed neither pleasure nor displeasure but asked her father to accept the proposal.

In due course the girl was married to the prince and taken to the palace; but before she left her home she told her father all that had happened and asked him not to grieve for her as she was quite capable of taking care of herself. But she instructed him to make secret enquiries to find out where she would be kept imprisoned in case the prince carried out his threat, and dig an underground passage between the dungeon and his house so that she could get access to him unknown to others.

The prince proved true to his word. When the girl, after her wedding, was taken to her nuptial chamber, he ordered his trusted minions to seize her and had her imprisoned in a two room dungeon. Her room was practically sealed off, and a maidservant from the adjoining room served her meals through a slit in the wall. None but this servant girl was allowed to have any conversation with her, and even this girl could talk only through the hole in the wall.

The prince, what with his many wives and pleasures of the hunt, soon forgot his oilmonger wife and lived as if she did not exist.

The oilmonger, who had kept himself well-informed about all that was happening to his daughter, had the tunnel dug, and the girl visited her father as often as she pleased, though she took the precaution of remaining indoors and not letting her neighbours know about her visits. Nor did the maidservant detailed to attend on her know anything about it, as the prisoner visited her father only at night when she was supposed to be sleeping.

When the oilmonger's daughter felt that sufficient time had elapsed for the prince to forget her completely, she decided to put her plans into execution. First she asked her father to get her renowned teacher of dancing; when one was procured, she took him into her confidence and learnt singing and dancing. She spared no pains in mastering the intricate art of dancing, especially those seductive poses and guileful gestures that fascinate men. In course of time, she acquired perfection in dancing, and her teacher himself declared that he had never seen or trained so accomplished a dancer.

The dancer now requested her teacher to ask for a performance in the court where he was to introduce her as his daughter. The teacher felt proud of the suggestion, and a performance in the palace was duly arranged.

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The dance in the palace was a great success. The grace and rhythm of the dancer captivated the audience. The lightly-clad girl took care to display the wonderful symmetry of her form to the best advantage as she sailed past the prince, and the prince could hardly contain himself; for he was a great lover of dancing.

As soon as the dancer had finished her performance and retired to her establishment, the expected happened. A trusted messenger of the prince came to the dancing-master, complimented him on the wonderful performance of his daughter and informed him that the prince would be pleased to visit the lady that very night. The dancing-master set a very high price on his daughter, but the prince was prepared to barter away his kingdom for the pleasure of a night with the enchanting dancer, and so did not care to haggle.

Punctualy at sundown prince Uddalaka came. The dancer, dressed to kill, came cyly to him, her face half-veiled. Dim lights and heady drinks further prevented recognition, if at all recognition was possible, and the prince had a night with the dancer the like of which he had never had in his life before; in feat, it was with difficulty that he could tear himself away from the lovely, voluptuous, fascinating, beauty in the small hours of the morning.

In due course the oilmonger's daughter conceived. As she was nearing full term, she told her maidservant that she intended to shut herself up in her room in order to enter into a trance lasting for months; she had been secretly practising Yoga, she said; and had obtained such proficiency in the science that she could live merely on air. After giving strict instructions to the servant girl not to disturb her in her Samadhi and pronouncing a curse on her if would, the oilmonger's daughter went to her father's house and lived there in comfort, well looked after by her mother.

In her time she gave birth to a son. He was born at an auspicious hour, and on his person were all the mystic marks of royalty. Ten days after the birth of her son, she gave him into the care of her parents, returned to her dungeon, told the servant girl that her trance was over, and lived in her cell as before.

The oilmonger and his wife reared their grandson with the greatest care; he grew into a fine boy and became the leader of the youngsters of the village in the rustic games they played. The oilmonger named his grandson Tilakan.

One day, while he was playing in a village lane, Tilakan happened to offend one of his playmates who called him a bastard and asked him, if he were not, to tell him who his father was. Tilakan, no doubt, severely punished the truculent boy but his remarks set him thinking, and he immediately went home and asked his grandparents who his father and mother were. On this, the old oilmonger assured him that they were both alive and well. He then took his grandson to the doorway that opened into the underground passage and told him: 'go by this passage, my boy, and you will reach a prison cell where you will find a lady; she will tell you all about about your parents.'

As directed by his grandfather, Tilakan went through the dreary passage and reached the dungeon. His mother was delighted to see him. On the boy's enquiring about his parentage, she narrated to him the story of her life and of the cruel treatment she had all along received from her husband, his father; as she told him the sorry tale, the poor woman wept and embraced her son. 'You are a prince, my son,' she said kissing him, 'and you must claim your heritage as soon as you come of age.'

'Mother, dear,' Tilakan consoled her, 'do not weep; I do not care for my heritage, but from now on my only thought will be to avenge your wrongs. And I hope, next time we meet, you will be not only a free woman but a queen enjoying all the honours due to your rank!'

The mother blessed her son, wished him the guidance and aid of the gods in all that he undertook, and sent him back home.

Reaching home, Tilakan told his grandfather that he had learnt all about his parents and he would not rest till his imprisoned mother was released, and his father made to repent of his cruelty. So, with the permission of his grandparents, Tilakan travelled to a far country where lived a famous teacher who trained young men in the use of weapons and in the conjuror's art. He took up a position as apprentice to this teacher, and in course of time learnt to use all the weapons of war, and acquired skill in sleight of hand and in other arts that delude men's senses. When he felt he was able to do the job he had in view, Tilakan took leave of his teacher and returned to Magadha. On the way, he successfuly tried a few tricks he had learnt, and procured all the money and equipment he needed.

In Magadha he rented a house near the palace, and from this house he watched and studied the layout of the buildings of the palace, the height of the boundary walls, the rooms the prince used the exit and entrance to the palace, the sentinels who guarded them and all other details he wished to know.

Then one dark night Tilakan stole into the bedrom of the prince and his favourite wife. After making sure that both were fast asleep, he managed to remove the prince's signet ring from his finger and his wife's jewellery from her body without waking up either of them; after this, he picked up what he could conveniently lay hold of in the room and bolted away without leaving the slightest trace behind.

In the morning when prince Uddalaka woke up he found his signet ring missing and his wife

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discovered that she had lost all her jewellery. A search was made when it was found that many other things were also lost, and it became clear that a burglar had got into the palace at night. The prince reported the matter to his father, and king blazing with rage, ordered the Chief of his police force to investigate the matter immediately and catch the thief that very night. In a country, the king pointed out to the police officer, where such audacious robbery could take place in the palace itself, no citizen's home would be safe.

The news of the burglary in the palace and the king's order spread far and wide, and wherever two persons met, the chief topic of conversation was the theft of the prince's signet ring. Tilakan himself, no need to say, kept his ears wide open for news; when he went to the market place in the city, he picked up from street gossip, some interesting details about the police Chief and his relatives. He came to know that the Chief had a nephew who had gone on a pilgrimage to Benaras long ago; the young man had not been heard of since then and was taken for dead. The Chief, Tilakan was told, was very fond of this nephew of his and loved him like his own son, as the young fellow had been orphaned in childhood and was living in the Chief's house.

In the evening of the day on which the palace was burgled, a young pilgrim in saffron clothes, holding a staff and bowl, came to the house of the police Chief. On meeting the Chief the pilgrim fell at his feet, begged pardon for leaving him and going to Banaras and not letting him know anything about him for so long; he had heard a call from Lord Shiva, the pilgrim said, and forgetting everything, had gone on the trail of the divine voice to Benaras; he had learnt at the feet of many masters, had attained quietude of mind, and now wished to pay a visit to his old home and his beloved uncle. The Chief was delighted to meet his nephew whom he had taken for dead, and embraced him warmly; his nephew had changed much, he remarked, but his features remained essentially the same. The pilgrim regaled his uncle with many tales of his adventures in strange lands and of the wonderful places of pilgrimage he had visited. The young night advanced under this enchanting conversation, and only an interruption from his men could remind the police Chief of the king's order to hunt the thief that night.

The Chief now informed his nephew of the theft in the palace and his determination to catch the thief that very night, and told him that he was compelled to leave him just then but would meet him again next morning. 'In that case, uncle,' said the pilgrim, 'I think I should accompany you. I am an adept in Yoga and can see through many deceptions; perchance I may be of help to you in tracking down the robber.'

The Chief thanked his nephew for the offer and the two decided to go together. They sent the police party ahead to an appointed place and promised to join it later.

As soon as the party had departed, uncle and nephew ate their meal, and started on their quest for the thief. Before leaving the house, the Chief took the precaution of arming himself with a couple of handcuffs to be used in case the thief was caught on the way. His nephew showed interest in the gadget; he had never seen one, he said, and offered to carry the handcuffs for his uncle.

As uncle and nephew were walking quietly by moonlight, they happened to pass a lonely spot, when the nephew asked the uncle how a handcuff was used. The Chief was very good at instruction and demonstration, and told his nephew how the cuffs were clamped on the wrists; when he felt that the young man had grasped his instructions well, he showed his hands behind his back and asked his nephew to fix the cuffs to his wrists, as instructed, which was speedily and efficiently done! The nephew then suddenly took out the rags and a chain he had been hiding under his robe, gagged his uncle and tied him to a nearby tree.

After this he hurried to the Chief's house and told his 'aunt' that they had fallen into an ambush set by the thieves, that his uncle was caught and tied up to a tree and that he had escaped through the power of his Yoga which enable him to dart through space; the thieves were marching on the Chief's house with the intention of raiding it, he added, and asked the bewildered woman to give him all the ornaments for safe custody, and go into hiding. The woman was left no time for thought; after surrenderring her jewellery to the pilgrim, she went into hiding for fear of her life, and her supposed nephew, who was none other than Tilakan, as the reader must have rightly guessed by now, disappeared with the jewellery.

Next morning when the police Chief, who had gone to catch the thief, was himself found handcuffed, gagged and chained to a tree on the roadside, people could hardly help laughing. In the palace, however, the incident was viewed with grave concern, as there was no knowing what the audacious thief would be up to next. So prince Uddalaka himself, with the permission of his father, decided to make an attempt to catch the thief that night.

The princet accordingly gave elaborate instructions to the poilce and the palace guards to patrol every street and lane and comb the city for any suspicious characters. And he himself with a picked body of men went out at nightfall to see that his orders were carried out and that there was not a nook or corner of the city that was left unguarded.

Though all efforts were made to track down the malefactor, no report of any guard having taken even a vagrant reached the prince till midnight

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but Uddalaka was determined not to spare his men or himself and continued the search with relentless vigour. And as the prince and his party were proceeding to the suburbs of the city to make sure that the thieves were not hiding there, they noticed a flickering light on a barren hill that rose a couple of miles away from the city. The prince decided to find out who was keeping vigil on the lonely hill at that time of the night, as he know the hill to be uninhabited.

Uddalaka and his men gained the foot of the hill, and then quietly climbed up when they noticed a sturdy young man in an improvised tent sitting by the side of lamp in apparent expectation of something. They surprised him and the young man visibly frightened, took to flight. The prince's men caught and questioned him. At first he gave evasive replies but under threat of severe punishment, confessed that he was a merchant who traded by night, and was waiting for a party of thieves who had promised him good business late that night.

Now the prince decided to use him, and promised him wealth and honours if he would help him to get the thieves arrested, and threatened to hang him for abetting robbery, if he would not. On this the man agreed to trap the thieves for the prince. 'For this', he said, 'it is necessary that your men should hide somewhere sufficiently far away, preferably at the foot of the hill, if the thieves see a crowd here, they will very naturally become suspicious. So we two can remain in the tent; the others must retire.'

The prince could very well appreciate this, and asked his men to move away from the tent and hide themselves in different places at the foot of the hill and come up only when he sounded his whistle. After the men had disappeared, the prince and the merchant began their vigil in the tent.

The merchant who looked out constantly for lights, whispered to the prince; 'I think the thieves are on the way, for I can see a light in the distance. If they find the two of us in the tent, I am afraid they may not come in. So I pray Your Highness, you must remove your royal robes, and get into that sack in the corner of the tent. From there you can hear my conversation with the thieves; and as they sit here, I will go out on some pretext and sound a whistle when your men will come and surround the tent.'

The prince felt that this was a good idea, and he immediately removed his robees, tied them into a bundle, gave the whistle to the merchant and got into the sack. on this, the merchant closed the mouth of the sack with strong cords, put on the robes of the prince, and raised the alarm by sounding the whistle. All the prince's men now rushed to the tent, and the young man in royal robes, who looked very much like the prince, ordered four strong men to carry the sack which, he said, contained the thief. From inside the sack the prince cried out that he was not thief, but was whipped mercilessly for being obstreperous; for what with the man resembling the prince, and the general confusion and the darkness, no one could see through the disguise of the merchant, further, the king's men, who had extensive dealings with criminals, knew well enough that a thief who confessed to robbery without being tortured, was yet to be born.

It was noised abroad that the prince had caught the theif, and by the time the police party had reached the palace, a cheering crowd thronged the gate. The king himself, even without attending to his morning ablutions, came to see the thief who had caused such widespread dismay in the city. Presenting the sack to the king, the man in the prince's robe told him how he had caught the robber and sewn him up in the sack. Then he horse-whipped the sack and the man inside cried that he was not the thief; on which, the king, considerably annoyed at the mendacity, of the marauder, gave the wriggling sack a nasty kick with the royal boots, which effectively silenced the contents!

By the king's order the sack was opened, when out of it emerged the crown prince of Magadha, his face and body bruised almost out of recognition. The king and all the men looked at the prince and the stranger in the robes of the prince, and all were struck by the remarkable resemblance between the two.

'Who are you, young man?' asked the king of the youth who stood proudly before him in his son's robes.

'Your Majesty', calmly replied the young man, 'there is a lady living in a dungeon in the crown prince's harem. Pray send for her, and she will tell you who I am and why I am here.'

The king ordered his men to release the lady and bring her immediately before him.

When the oilmonger's daughter came, the young man fell at her feet and said: 'Mother, dear, I have today fulfilled my promise made to you. The crown prince, your husband and my father, has been chastened for his cruelty to you.'

The oilmonger's daughter now told the king in detail all that had happened. The king ordered her to be released and recognized as the chief wife of his son, who now repented of his folly and accepted the oilmonger's daughter as his lawful wife and her son, as his rightful heir.

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Reader's Ask

Q. *Some Canadian Papers reported that Madam Gandhi presented papads to the Governor General of Canada. Why papads of all things?*

A. I hope you haven't forgotten that Hindi saying "Dilli ke log papad bahut belete hain."

Q. *President Nixon recently stated that Indo-Pak dispute should be settled bilaterally!*

A. Thank goodness for the realization, better late than never.

Q. *Why do old persons and lovers do not sleep during nights?*

A. Both lie awake waiting: old persons for death and lover for the beloved.

Q. *I want to abuse immigration officers but am afraid. What shall I do?*

A. Make a phone call, shout the abuse and put down receiver.

Q. *How do rich Overseas Indians spend their money?*

A. Some by losing in stock market and others on cocktails.

Q. *Before 1947 when I lived in India, "Inqlab Zindabad" slogan was popular among the youth. What is popular these days?*

A. Dam Maro Dam.

Q. *In these days of gurus, I also want to adopt one. Can you suggest any?*

A. K. Sital, P. O. Box 13636, Hong Kong.

Q. *What are the tax liabilities of a non-resident Indian?*

A. Only that income which accures in India is taxable. It has to be declared once a year, around the month of May.

Q. *Can you suggest a suitable agency in India to whom donations may be sent?*

A. Donation for charitable causes is a matter of personal choice and a wide selection may be found in India. A sure bet is the Prime Minister's Relief Fund, New Delhi. All Indian banks abroad accept money for forwarding to the Fund.

Q. *In an earlier issue, you reported that Libya does not accept visitors whose passports are issued in any language other than Arabic. What do I do with my passport which has no Arabic on it.*

A. The Indian Government puts a stamp in Arabic on passports, if requested. Ask the Indian Mission in your country of residence to do the needful.

Q. *June issue of THE INDIAN praised Air India like hell? I travelled recently on this line from Frankfurt to Hong Kong via Bombay. The service was lousy and hostesses were openly quarrelling amongst themselves.*

A. I am sorry to note your experience... Have you written to the authorities? Normally, Air India is known for its service.

Q. *Which is the largest selling periodical of India.*

A. A Tamil language weekly, KUMUDAM has a circulation of 374000 per week, followed by MALAYALA MANORAMA which sells over 200000 per week. The largest selling Hindi magazine are DHARAMYUG from Bombay and KALYAN from Gorakhpur—U.P.

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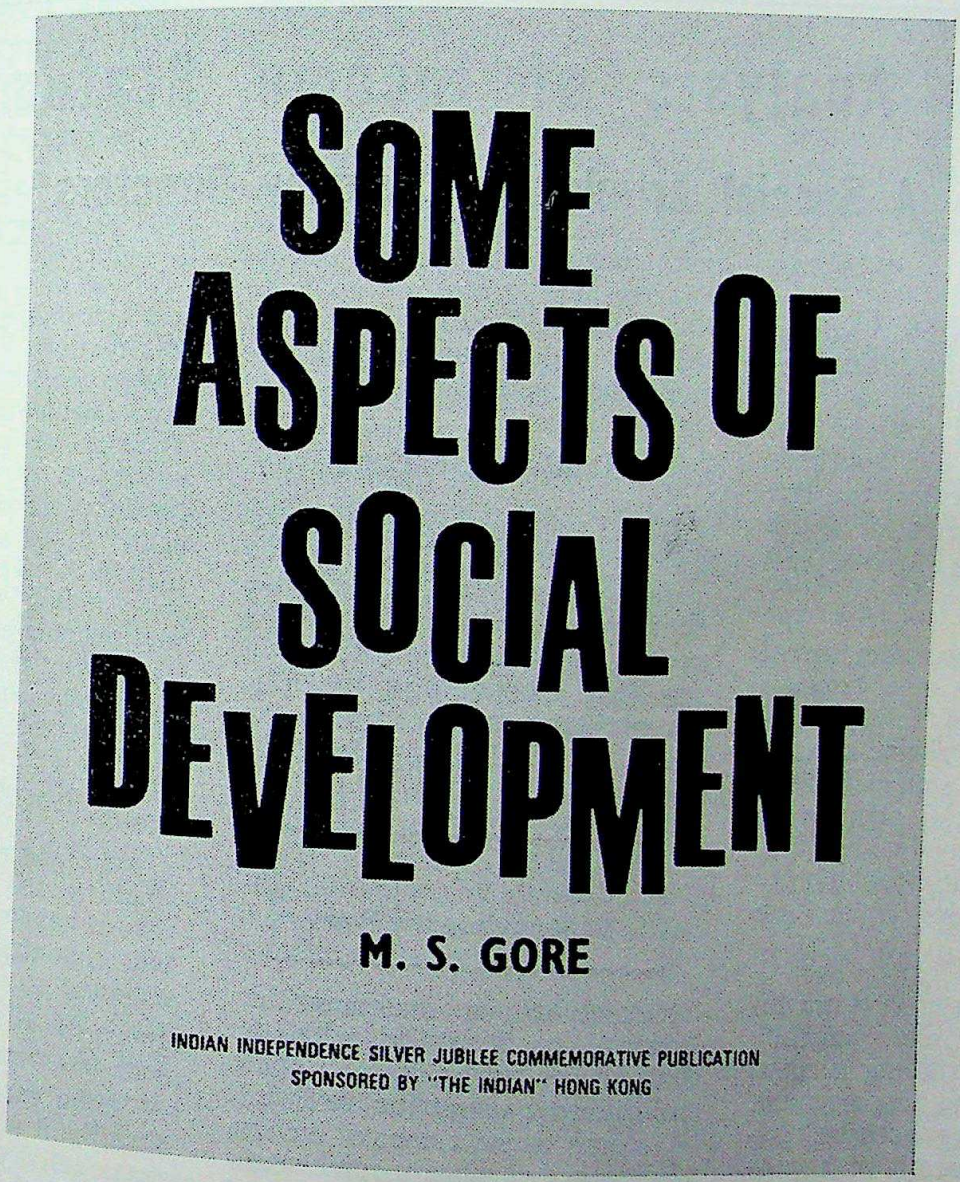

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Credit Analysis of Income Statements

— A Special Article for Company Directors —

Financial statements include the trading or manufacturing account, profit and loss account and the balance sheet. While the first two accounts are accounts covering a given period, the last one is only a statement of assets and liabilities as on any date and is not an account.

The first two accounts reveal the working results of a concern and they are called 'result' statements. But the balance sheet is called a 'position' statement as it reflects the financial position of a concern as on any date by comparing the liabilities which are resources with assets which are investments.

The result statements are income statements and generally they include the trading account and the profit and loss account. While the trading account discloses the gross profit of a concern, the profit and loss A/c discloses the net profit after charging all the expenses of the business. The net profit is the return on the capital investment made in the business. If the profit and loss account shows a net loss position, it means to the extent of the loss, original equity is lost in the business.

Income statement is prepared on the basis of the accrual concept. Income earned but not received is included. Income received in advance is excluded. Expenditure incurred but not paid is included and prepaid expenses are excluded.

Trading account

The Companies Act does not give a proforma of the income statement and hence, some of the companies combine the trading account part also in the profit and loss account and then the income statement becomes only a P & L A/c including in itself the trading A/c.

by

B. Ramchandra Rao

Hence, income statement has come to be identified with the P & L A/c in the main. There are different names for the P & L A/c such as statement of income and earned surplus, income statement, income A/c, statement of income and expense, statement of earnings, statement of operations, etc.

Whatever be its name, the income statement, as a historical record, it serves in pointing out and summarising those transactions in which there is a loss or gain for the owners of the business in respect of a past period.

In credit analysis, the income statement is not examined in isolation from the balance sheet. and not idnependent. While one The two are always inter-related depicts the working results, the other depicts the financial position of a concern. Working result's as well as the financial position should always go together in a comprehensive credit appraisal. The financial position of the borrower, whereas the income statement gives an idea about the earnings and the repayment capacity in relation to the profitability of the borrower.

Earnings level

In credit analysis it is not a single year's income statement that is taken into consideration, but statement of 3 to 4 years consecutively are studied to observe the level of earnings from year to year.

If the earnings are increasing steadily, it is a good sign of business activity. In the case of losses, if they are reduced year after year, that also indicate that the concern is on the road to recovery.

On the other hand, if the earnings are falling year after year, it is an adverse feature in income statement analysis. The falling trend in earnings may be due bad management, fall in sales, competition from others and various other reasons which may reduce the income and increase the expenses of the business.

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But where there is a proposal for advance and if the profit is low, it ned not necessarily be a case for rejection on the ground of incapacity to repay on account of the small profit position. It is quite possible that such a concern can increase its level of profits by using the borrowed funds to augment the earnings.

A person having small means may go in for a taxi and repay only from the earnings. This is an example where borrowed funds are used profitably to increase income for repaying the dues.

Critical analysis of the income statement involves the study of profit engineering whih is a dissection of past, present and anticipated profits to develop techniques for deliberate design of profits with known and predictable physical and financial limitations and the economic conditions in which the business operates.

Results shown by an income statement is a consequence of profit planning which takes into account known limiting factors and constraints. But profit engineering goes a step further and it leads to scientific enquiry into the factors which are responsible for the generation of profits and provides data to improve the position.

While the borrower should be greatly concerned with profit planning and profit engineering, the financier is concerned with the end-result of the business activity.

It should, however, be noted that net profit or loss is not necessarily synonymous with cash increase or decrease. Similarly, an increase in cash does not necessarily suggest that the enterprise is well-off. It may be due to a decrease in any asset or an increase in a liability.

There are three broad sections in the income statement. The first one is the gross profit section. It includes gross sales, returns, allowances and discounts, net sales, cost of goods sold and gross margin.

Gross margin is arrived at by deducting the cost of goods sold from the net sales. The figure of net sales is arrived at by deducting the total of sales returns, allowances and sales discounts, state and local sales tax, octroi and excise duties charged to the customers from the figure of gross sales.

Net sales

In credit review for sales, only net sales will have to be taken. Net sales is the key figure in the income statement. This figure is needed to work out the turnover of inventory, net working capital and of tangible net worth. To find out the average collection period also the net sales figure is necessary.

This figure includes both cash and credit sales and hence to arrive at the average collection period, if cash sales figure is excluded, the period arrived at will be more realistic.

From the gross sales, returns, allowances, etc. are deducted and these deductibles are also important for credit scruitiny. The extent of these is an indication of whether the merchandise is meeting the requirements of the customers without complaints about quality or quantity.

Income stems from sales. Sales are equivalent gross operating revenues and this is the basis to arrive at the net profit or loss of an enterprise. A graphical rise in sales helps to project the trend of sales.

Higher sales mean higher operating income. While studying the sales figure, the profit angle should be kept in mind. Besides, the trend of business in general the trend of the particular line of business, changes in the level of prices, etc. should also be taken note of to facilitate an in-depth study of sales behaviour.

In the gross profit section, the cost of goods sold is also important for study. It is arrived at thus: opening inventory; add net purchase; less closing inventory.

Expenses

In the case of manufacturing concerns, to the opening stock, the cost of raw materials, wages and all expenses connected with the manufacturing process are added and the closing stock figure is deducted to arrive at the figure of the cost of goods sold.

The value of closing inventory is the most important single figure in the computation of net profit or net loss. Any understatement or overstatement will have its corresponding impact on the profit or loss figure.

In the gross profit section, the final figure is the gross margin. The percentage of gross margin on net sales indicates whether the average mark-up on goods sold is sufficient normally to cover all expenses and to show a gross profit. This is useful for a comparative analysis of enterprises in the same line of business.

Bankers should compare the gross profit margin and the expense ratio. Wholesalers have a lower expense ratio than the retailers. Expense ratio is the operating ratio and is calculated by dividing the operating expenses plus the cost of goods sold by the sales figure. If the ratio is 90% and when it is deducted from 100%, one gets the net margin available for taxes and return on capital.

The variation of this margin from year to year will have to be studied. It also indicates the operating efficiency. A low operating ratio is a good sign of a thriving business on efficient lines.

The next section in the income statement is the operating profit section. This includes selling expenses, administrative and general expenses, provision for bad debts and other miscellaneous expenses.

From the gross margin, all these operating expenses are deducted and the balance will be

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the operating profit. Operating profit is the result of the translation into action of the pragmatic policies of the management.

In the operating section, the banker would be keen to expect the expenses levels at their lowest.

High rent, heavy interest charges large travelling expenses, exorbitant entertainment costs, heavy legal expenses, heavy commission and writing off large bad debts are all significant from the banker's point of view.

Large travelling expenses in relation to small sales volume may disclose unwarranted expenses. Heavy interest payment may indicate large external borrowings on clean basis at a high rate from private parties. Large commission paid may be due to an effort to push the sales of products which may be somewhat poor in quality. Heavy legal charges may be due to bad supplies or backing out from contract terms and may indicate larger possibilities of contingent liabilities. Bad debts written off will be an indication of credit rating by the management and will reflect on the quality of receivables.

Depreciation

There are other items of expenses. The size and trend of depreciation have an important bearing on past and future earnings of fixed assets. Charging inadequate depreciations to show a higher profit is not a favourable feature, whereas charging adequate depreciation indicates the extent of retained earnings as an inflow which will add reserve strength to the business. However, to decide the adequacy of depreciation is a matter of technical knowledge. Higher expenses on repairs indicate the working conditions of the machinery.

There are items like discount earned and discount allowed. Discount earned on purchases may reflect the trade paying habits. Discount allowed on sales may indicate the quality and class of customers to whom goods are sold.

The extent of carriage inward may indicate whether the purchases are being made as economically as possible from nearby sources. Likewise, carriage outwards may reveal changes in freight absorption policies and expansion of market.

Items like salesmen's salaries, officers' salaries, advertisement expenses, insurance expenses, etc. can also be critically examined.

The operating section is the heart of the income statement. In this section items like maintenance, depreciation, income-tax liability, pension costs and price level changes should receive sufficient attention.

Maintenance should be properly charged in respect of fixed assets. It is better to consider maintenance and depreciation in combination. In the income statement depreciation should be compared with the gross fixed assets and yearly variations should be noted.

Pension cost

As regards the pension cost, it should not be against an unfunded plan i.e., paying as and when an employee retires. It will only increase the capital liability.

In income statements, stability of earnings over the years is significant for the banker. Goods that have a moderate or low price per unit will tend to sell more steadily than goods with a high price per unit. Goods regarded as necessaries will show greater stability in sales volume than those in the luxury class. Narrow price fluctuations of the goods handled make for stable earnings. Rapid turnover of inventories will result in greater stability of earnings. But the banker should have an eye on the price level while examining the sales volume. Sometimes, the sales volume may go up, without any rise in the number of units sold, due to the price spurt. Similarly, as a result of a fall in pirces more articles may be sold, but the sales volume may not rise.

The third section in the income statement is the "final net profit or loss" section. This section is otherwise known as the non-operating section and includes cash discounts earned and given, interest, extraordinary expenses, taxes, royalties and other expenses incurred in securing the non-operating income.

On the income side, it includes "other income or additions to income" e.g. income from investments as incidental income. The items appearing in this section do not emanate from normal business operations.

Income charges are of three types: (1) items not connected with the normal operations e.g. loss from floods sale of fixed assets, expenses in carrying idle plants, etc.: (2) operating expenses of prior years coming to light during the current accounting period e.g. inventory shortage, additional taxes, etc. and (3) extraordinary expenses e.g. expenses incurred during the strike period.

To the operating profit other income not arising out of normal operations is added and from that other non-operating expenses are deducted to give the figure of net profit after taxes emerges.

When the word 'net' is used in net profit or loss, it is the net of profits or losses. It indicates that every expense in the operation of a business has been deducted and that all income from all sources has been include. Sometimes net profit is quoted as 'before depreciation,' 'before taxes,' etc., just to indicate the profit position before charging depreciation or taxes.

In the credit analysis of the income statements, comparision is made of the statements for 3 to 4 years. The historical past will be utilised to make judgment about the future.

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Comparison is made of the items of each year on the basis of horizontal analysis or vertical analysis. Horizontal analysis involves measuring the changes in the items across the years. A percentage rise or fall for each item in the income statement yearwise is ascertained and an unusual rise or fall may be closely looked into.

In vertical analysis, for each year, the percentage of each item in the income statement in relation to the net sales is given.

These percentages provide a vertical measurement of the relation of each item to net sales. Any wide variation between two years will have to be looked into.

The income statements of two concerns of similar nature may also be compared. This will give clues as to why one is doing well and the other not so. Both the horizontal and vertical methods of analsis can be profitably adopted to find out the reasons for the difference in performance of two different units of similar nature.

An analysis may also be made by preparing a statement showing the variation in net income between two years by way of 'increase' or 'decrease' in respect of each item.

In credit anaylsis, the final net profit is of primary importance and it is compared with tangible net worth or net sales by working out ratios. Both these measures are complementary. The first one is a guide to the use of funds invested in the business and the second to particular operations. Where both the ratios are good over a period of years, it may be said that such managements are doing well.

If net profit is unusually large, the basis of these profits should be carefully analysed to find out whether this has arisen from economic factors which are temporary or from efficient operations.

A sudden spurt in profits may not be always due to the result of natural economic factors and many businesses have failed after showing huge profits.

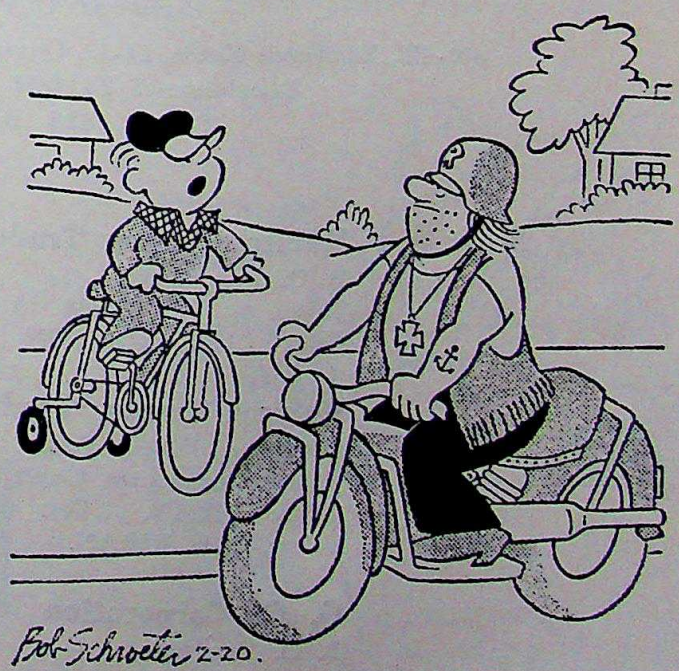
Bankers should see how much of the profits are retained in the business. Heavy drawals from earnings is not a favourable feature for credit decisions especially where clean facilities are sought. But from the investors' point of view large dividends paid out will make the investors happier but not the creditors.

Lenders of long-term funds and shareholders will pay more attention to the income statement. The longer a claim is like to continue, the more sustained will the interest be in the earning figures.

According to the Companies Act, the income statement should disclose a true and fair view of the profit made or loss incurred during the accounting period. The schedule has laid down that the following particulars should be disclosed in the profit and loss account: (1) items of income and expenditure should be arranged under convenient heads, (2) comparative figures of the corresponding previous period should be shown and (3) specified information under turnover, stocks, purchases, etc., works in progress, depreciation, interest, provision for taxation, reserve for repayment of share capital or loans, reserves, provisions, other expenditure, income from investment, profits or losses from investments or unusual transactions, dividends received from and porvisions for losses of subsidiary companies, dividends paid or proposed to be paid, basis of accounting, remuneration of managing agents, director, etc., auditor's fees, etc., should be given.

The income statement is important as the trend of profits is the best indication of the prosperity of a company. Only profitable businesses can provide jobs, earn return for investors, spend money on improved tools to improve quality of products, and attract funds from banks, investors and other creditors. Income or profit is, therefore, something more than the mathematical figure in the statement.

Courtesy: Finance Express.



"How long was it till you took your training wheels off?"

Courtesy: The Indian Express.

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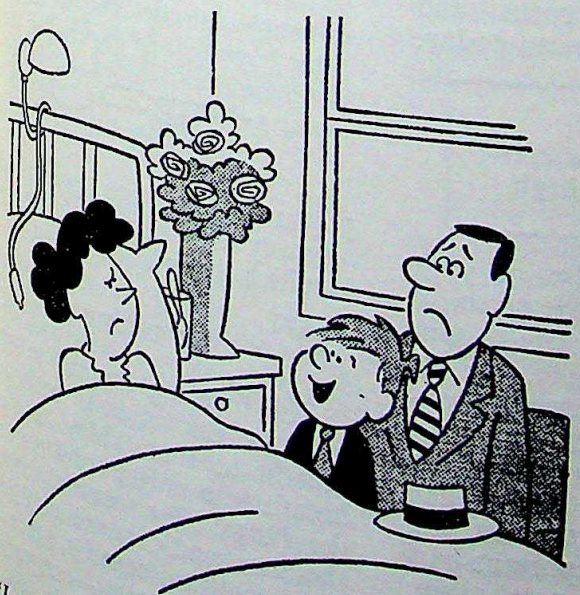

"I never realized how many dishes you have, Mom! Six days now and we haven't had to wash a single one yet."

"I'll have the businessman's lunch, too—in the summer I have a lemonade stand."

Courtesy: The Indian Express.

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Woman's Page

Yoga for Health

by

Lalita Uttamsingh

Meaning

Most of us have become Yoga-conscious these days. It provides us with the key to perfect health and lights up the path to self sealization. Yoga is a Sanskrit word meaning 'union'. This is actually the union between the individual soul and supreme soul, or, in actual words—'Jivatma' and 'Paratma'.

The science that teaches the way to acquire this knowledge is called Yoga Shastra. While Hatha Yoga concerns the physical body and control of breath, Raja Yoga deals with the mind. Although both these are essentially complementary to each other in order to become a perfect yogi, the one best suited to the ordinery man is the Hatha Yoga.

Hatha is actualy comprised of two words 'Ha' and 'Tha'; the former meaning the moon and the latter, the sun. These correspond to the breaths which flow through the left and right nostrils.

Hatha yoga is, in fact, the first step in all Yoga study, the perfect practise of which leads to Raja Yoga. It is not necessary that one should be young to be able to practise yoga. Even the middle aged and the obese can recapture their youth and energy through regular yogic exercises. Of course, the state of health, age and convenience of the individual is taken into consideration before recommending the type of 'Asana' or 'Posture' best suited for him.

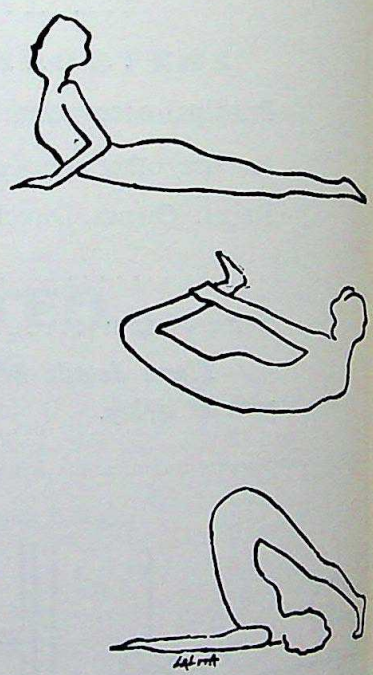
Western adaptations con centrate mainly on breath-taking, muscular control and complete concentration. But people who have practised this type of Yoga have experienced amazing improvement in health, looks and general well-being.

Yoga for Relaxation

Speed is one of the worst curses of our modern civilization. Noise, another. Also the competitiveness of life has increased so much that has become the root cause of many nervous and psychosomatic illnesses today.

The study and practise of yoga can not only relieve the strain of life but also learn to live a happier and a relaxed life. While ordinery physical exercises develop the muscles of the body only, the 'asanas' strive to thoroughly exercise the internal organs like the liver, spleen, lungs, brain, etc. which play a very important part in maintaining the metabolism, structure, growth and nutrition of the body. Hatha Yoga, well taught, discourages severely any showing off of athletic prowess and gymnastic ability. Physical inability to perform more difficult postures, does not interfere in any way with the ultimate control at which the individual aims.

Three useful exercises



Breathing

The first step for any would-be yoga student is to learn to breathe better. Most of us breathe with only a small part of the lungs. We take only short shallow breath instead of filling the lungs to capacity, then—equally important — emptying them completely of stale, used up air. A big part of learning to relax is in practising it with enjoyment, concentration and

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faith. Trying to practise it as a dreary duty is asking for failure. Here's where the mental discipline part of the training comes in.

Padmasana

One of the best known postures is the lotus pose of the 'Padmasana' usually considered the best pose for contemplation. Only those with particularly supple muscles and joints can achieve it unless they have practised it from early childhood. The simplified version is the ordinery cross-legged position. This position is good to practise breathing exercises in—especially one designed to speed up blood circulation, known as Ujjayi.

Standing on the head or 'Sirshasana' brings a flush of fresh blood to the brain, and isn't half as difficult or dangerous as it sounds. The exercise starts from a kneeling position, forearms on the floor in line with each other; elbows close to sides. The top of the head is then placed on the floor and the hands are clasped around it. Next, the seat is lifted and the feet raised to the toes. From this position, with a slight kick off, the weight is transferred to the top of the head. Feet now being held in the air with knees bent. Balance is steadied at this point, then the legs are slowly straightened until the body is vertical. With a little practise one can achieve a complete smooth movement.

Bhujangasana

Another exercise called the cobra or 'Bhujangasana', probably because of the way the head is thrown back, is especially good after a hard day's work since it increases energy rather than drain it. First lie face down, palms under the chest on the floor, level with lower ribs. Forehead should be touching ground. The legs should be stiff and together throughout. Second, slowly raise head upwards and back, neck and trunk will gadually follow. Do not move the legs but breathe easily. Third, arms straight, head thrown back, eyes looking up at the ceiling, trunk raised as far as you can—this will be only a few inches at first! Hold this position and then slowly drop down and relax.

When the 'Dhanurasana' is performed it represents a bow. Lie on your chest with the face downwards. Relax all the muscles. Keep the arms at the sides. Gently fold the legs at the back. Raise your hands backwards catching hold of the ankles. Raise the chest and head, keeping the arms and forelegs quite stiff. In the beginning, the legs will part but slowly you will ease your leg muscles into bending backwards without strain. This asana gives a good massage to the abdomen.

Halasana

The 'Halasana' gives the posture of plough. Lie on the ground with the palm facing the ground. Join both legs and lift them very slowly to form an acute angle with your head and and continue to lower it towards your head keeping your knees straight and stiff. Your toes should now touch the floor behind your head. See that the chin is pressed against the chest. This asana tones the spinal nerves and the muscles of the back, preventing early degeneration of the vertebral bones.

Mental Relaxation

Hatha yoga is the preliminary step towards a certain goal, that of subdueing the physical responses or muscular actions. This later leads to mental relaxation. Trying to reach this state is not as simple as to sounds. In fact just when you feel you are bodily relaxed you find that your mind gets all the attention and is in a state of greatest flux. The final asana known as 'Shavasana' happens to be, therefore, the most difficult asana of all since it is in this asana that most concentration is required. What may seem like a peacefully still body could be one that is thinking the most. It is in this asana that the individual tries to reach a state of mental relaxation by just concentrating on the regularity of his breahting.

There are several other such asanas with a variety of techniques quite possible to list here. But, the essence of all Yogic teaching is to never over-do any exercise. The movements should be deliberate and smooth with gradual relaxation. Don't be discouraged initially if some posture is not perfect, with practise you can dispense with any help. As said before, Hatha Yoga not only relieves physical tension but also mental strain. Anxiety has been found to be the root cause of all mental disorders whether of a small measure or great. The abolition of this anxiety can only take place through channelization of emotions and responses towards different outlets, of which Hatha Yoga is one.

This is a goal worth working for, because by the time you reach it you will be full of vitality and feel wonderfully fit.

Miss Asia turns down film roles

Tara Anne Fonseca, the reigning Miss Asia, has decided not to tread the path to stardom unlike Zeenat Aman who was crowned Miss Asia three years ago.

The 22-year-old beauty queen who returned to Bombay over the weekend after a hectic tour of several Asian countries stated that several film producers had contacted her father soon after she was crowned Miss Asia but knowing her mind, her father had politely declined all the offers.

She is determined to stick to her career in advertising. She is now working as a copywriter in an advertising agency.

Tara has hung up her crown and does not propose to enter any contest for Miss World or Universe contests. "I am retiring from beauty contests," she stated.

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Indians Abroad

AUSTRALIA

EAST MEETS WEST

It almost looks like the culture 'invasion" of Australia by the Indians.

Beginning early in the year with the concerts of celebrated sarod (stringed musical instrument) maestro, Ali Akbar Khan in all State Capitals and the A.C.T., the rhythmic cycle has kept in motion. A 16-member Indian Music-dance ensemble followed suit during March and performed in Sydney, Melbourne and Canberra under the aegis of Indo-Australian Exchange Agreement. India's gift to the world of music, acclaimed as the single most important influence in every form of music today .... Rock ..... Classical ..... Folk ..... or Cultural, the greatest of the sitar players, Ravi Shanker performed in Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne, Perth and Adelaide during the latter half of last month. He appeared with accompanists Alla Rakha on tabla and Nadu Mullick on Tanpura.

While all these celebrated Indian artistes have been staging through the country with a great fanfare, the equally well-known but less sophisticated group of musical bards, the "Bauls of Bengal" have been performing not without success in various Australian State Capital cities under the auspices of the Aquarius Foundation of the Australian Union of Students.

The six-member Bauls troupe headed by Purna Das, "the jewel among the Bauls", made its debut at the Australian Aquarius Festival held in Nibmin (Victoria State) last May.

The Bauls of Bengal group has already performed concerts in America, Great Britain, France and certain European capital cities including Moscow.

The Bauls, known in India as "the madcap Bauls" because of the length of their hair, their dress, their wanderings and ecstatic life style, trace their heritage back to the pre-Vedic times in India. Traditionally, they are known to have no temples, idols or commandments. There are monks, ascetics, and married men among the Bauls. They go from vilage, singing, with their "ektara"—a simple one-stringed instrument—and their small drums called "dubkis". At certain times of the year and in certain propitious places, the Bauls come together periodically in a big fair (mela) where the songs and dances continue non-stop day and night for as long as the gathering lasts. On these occasions there are no rites of worship and no oral teaching, for these mystic poets attach no importance to anything except the vibration of soul. They sing and dance in praise of God: for them life itself is holy.

One of the traditional Baul songs reads as follows:

At your lotus feet I surrender
The totality of my existence.
The 'I' in me asks only that it be
Quickly transcended and this body
Become thy loving son and servant.
Thy will be done Lord—"

—Rama Gaind

The Bauls of Bengal. Back row from left, Nabin, Purna Das, and Manju Das; front, Laxman Das, Bhakta, and Jibon.

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India on the march—symposium in Melbourne

"For anything you say about India the opposite is also true' (an old saying).

When Indologists from all over Australia got together at Melbourne University's Indian Studies Department this month for their biennial conference, they reached overall agreement that everything in India has changed without anything being different. The country has progressed in every direction while showing a lack of progress in certain areas.

At least it's something of an achievement for India to have reached this paradoxical situation. The general impression among Australians is that the country is stagnant, paralysed by its poverty and population crisis.

But this impression was strongly contested by speakers at the conference—even if they rarely showed much enthusiasm for its opposite.

Most optimistic of all were the economists. Dr R. M. Sundrum of the Australian National University (ANU) of Canberra opened his paper stating that since India became independent of "the British connection" (a nice touch), "she has achieved one of the most impressive records of economic and social development among all developing countries."

He then sheeted his point home with a barrage of statistics. In just twenty year (1951-71) the death rate fell by more than 40 per cent, life expectancy increased from 32 to 53 years (the main reason for the population crisis), the literacy rate doubled, the number of children aged 6-14 in schools rose nearly 400 per cent, the amount of installed electricity capacity rose more than 500 per cent, transport indicators all doubled or more, etc.

Dr Sundrum claimed that the socio-economic achievements listed were only possible because India had emphasised "modernisation" of the economy rather than single-minded pursuit of a higher GNP.

He outlined the advantages of India's approach: by concentrating on building up its own indigenous heavy industry, it has cut down on expensive imports from the West and moved into a position to plan for an industrial "take off" into rapid growth; strict government controls on the private sector have made it easier to initiate egalitarian measures. But he picked out 3 main failings:

(1) "Our failure has been our failure to control the population explosion'. As India's population increased more than 50 per cent—by

Rama Gaind

187 million—from 1951 to 1971, no one disagreed with him. But there was a heated dispute on whether current Indian government expenditure of $100 million per year on family planning was really likely to slow it down.

(2) That the benefits of growth have flowed almost entirely to the rich and reasonably well-off. Again, everyone agreed on this. Dr Hugh Owen of West Australian University, Perth suggested the main reason India has remained so uniquely democratic compared to its neighbours is that "the dominant sources of power are having their needs satisfied by the present exercise of power".

(3) Too little emphasis has been placed on helping peasant-farmers improve their output (witness, the present drought and near-famine). He saw some hope of change in these last two failings coming from the statements of Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi's powerful Planning Minister (Mr D. P. Dhar) that the coming (Fifth) Five-Year-Plan will emphasise agriculture equally with heavy industry, and removal of poverty equally with attaining self-reliance.

Another ANU researcher, Dr Roger Shand, rose in partial defence of the "green revolution" in agriculture. He claimed its results had been "positive, not spectacular", adding,

"there is no evidence that increasing farm mechanisation and use of high yielding seeds has caused significantly increased unemployment — if anything, the reverse is true. There is evidence, however, that some landlords have displaced tenants to farm the land themselves using the new techniques, and,

"the 'green revolution' in India had been planned as an emergency programme in a time of drought—and had changed this within four years to an historic foodgrains surplus".

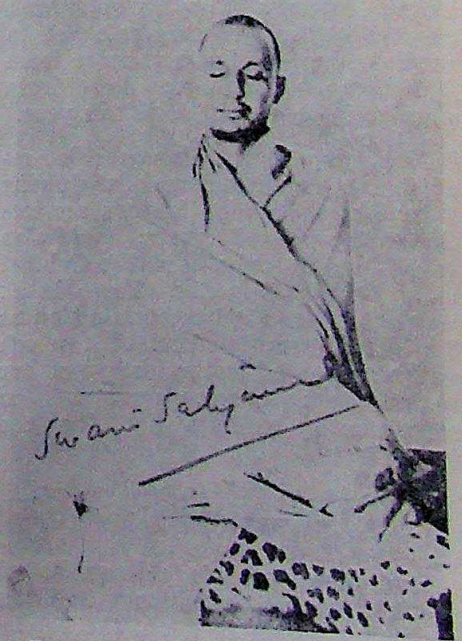
That much said, he went on "India's harvests remain the traditional "gamble with the rains". There is a desperate need for more intensive use of irrigation and water resources. The small farmers need preferential help that, so far, they have not been getting.

The political papers were on fairly unrelated topics, and difficult to summarise in general terms. One significant point, however, emerged, viz.

Traditional caste-relationships between individuals are breaking down, and in their place, our own (Australian) kind of class stratification based wealth. While this might seem to be an obvious historical development it is now happening . . . and the exotic feudal India is fading slowly before the growth of the modern capitalist state.—**Rama Gaind.**

BOGOTA / COLUMBIA

Bogota has the unique honour of being blessed with a School of Yoga. The school was established by Swami Satyananda of Monghyr. It is housed in Satyanandashram. The ashram was set up by a disciple of Swami Shivananda of Rishikesh—Hardwar and is 50 years old. The golden jubilee of the Ashram was celebrated recently in Bogota. A convention is being organised later during the year to mark the occasion.



Paramhansa Swami Satyananda

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MALAYSIA / SINGAPORE

The Minister for National Unity, Tun V. T. Sambanthan, stepped down as President of the Malaysian Indian Congress (MIC) in June—after leading the party for eighteen years. If he had not done so, the MIC—one of Malaysia's oldest political parties and a founding partner of the ruling Alliance Party—would have ceased to exist. June 30 was the deadline set by the Registrar of Societies for the MIC Central Working Committee to meet and fix a date for the long delayed Congres General Assembly to be held in accordance with the MIC's constitution.

Following Tun Sambanthan's resignation, the Congress Working Committee met in Kuala Lumpur and unanimously elected the Minister for Labour and manpower, Tan Sri V. Manickavasagam as the new President and also decided to hold the delegates' conference on August 24. The Registrar of Societies, who had earlier asked the MIC to show cause why it should not be de-registered for not conforming to its own constitution ,was notified of the decision.

Successful mediation by Prime Minister

All these years, a delegates' conference was not possible because of the chronic leadership crisis plaguing the MIC. Tun Sambanthan's leadership was seriously challenged by Tan Sri Manickavasagam. The then Prime Minister Tunku Abdul Rahman somehow patched up their differences and the leadership crisis was temporarily averted. Crisis again flared up last year and a showdown was feared, when fortunately Prime Minister Tun Abdul Razak successfully played the role of a mediator by securing a promise from Tun Sambanthan to step down from presidency by end of June this year.

Following Tun Sambanthan's resignation, Tun Razak paid a glowing tribute to the Inidan leader's services during the past 18 years, and also asked him to remain in the Cabinet as a Senior Minister. Tun Razak described Tun Sambanthan's action as "an act of great sacrifice .... which will be recorded in the history of our nation to be remembered and to serve as a guiding light for the future."

17 years old Beard

Tun Sambanthan's relinquishment of the Congress presidency had an interesting sequel in Ipoh, the capital of Perak State and headquarters of the People's Progressive Party. Seventeen years ago, the PPP's Indian section publicity officer, Mr K. Annamalai, who was then in the MIC, had vowed he would not shave his beard until and unless Tun Sambanthan had ceased to be the MIC's national president. He had taken the vow at the Mariamman Temple in Kuala Lumpur on Feb. 1, 1956.

In 1957, Mr Annamalai contested the MIC leadership but lost to Tun Sambanthan. He then left the party and in the 1959 general elections, contested the Sungei Siput parliamentary constitutency on a PPP ticket but lost again to Tun Sambanthan. Early this month, two days after Tun Sambanthan's resignation, Mr Annamalai, now 46 years old, had his beard shaved by a barber at the residence of the PPP president and chairman of Ipoh Town Council, Datuk S. P. Sennivasagam. The ceremony was witnessed by Datuk Seenivasagam and a number of PPP members of the Central Malaysian Parliament and Perak State Legislative Assembly.

Indian Trade Show in Singapore

A mammoth Indian trade exhibition organised by the Government of India, was declared open at the Great World Amusement Park in Singapore on June 25 by the Indian High Commissioner to the Republic, Mr Thomas Abraham. The exhibition, was the third trade show held by India in Singapore. The last two were in 1961 and 1970. Exhibits were mostly India-made engineering goods, besides textiles, foodstuff, cosmetics, furniture and household electrical appliances—the products of some 200 leading manufacturing firms in India.

Mr Abraham in a message on the occasion said the total volume of trade between Singapore and India had grown by 50 per cent in the four years between 1968 and 1972. This, he said, was a "happy indicator of the growth of Singapore as a centre of economic activity in this region and the capacity of the Indian economy to develop." According to Mr Abraham , India has broken away from the traditional pattern of export and is now concentrating on a wide range of increasingly sophisticated machineware.

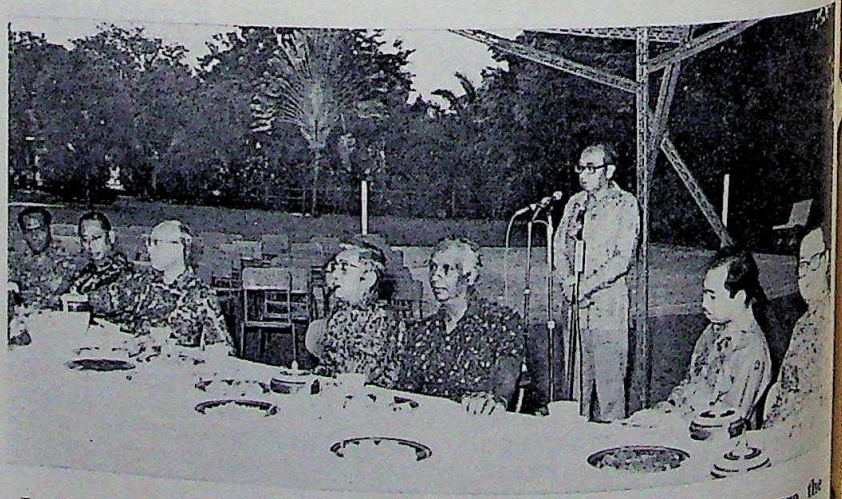
Singapore envoy in Delhi

A term of more than ordinary interest as High Commissioner ended with the recent departure from New Delhi of Mr Punch Coomaraswamy, who now goes to Australia.

Mr Coomaraswamy headed the Singapore High Commission in India for three and a half years with acknowledged distinction. It is a tribute to his easy and informal manner that, as in Singapore, "Punch" rather than "Coomaraswamy" is the name by which he was commonly known in New Delhi.

Singapore's High Commission in New Delhi looks after a wide area in the region. New Delhi remains its headquarters, but the concurrent accredition of the High Commissioner to three other countries requires his presence in Colombo (Sri Lanka), Khatmandu (Nepal) and Dacca (Bangladesh) as often as possible.

This is no easy job considering the High Commissioner's obligations



Leaders of the Malaysian Indian Congress at a tea party. Seen are the Prime Minister Tun Abdul Razak (before the mike) addressing the gathering with Tun Sambanthan seated next to him, on his right, while Tan Sri Manickavasagam is seen at extreme left. Deputy Prime Minister Tun Dr Ismail, Finance Minister Tun Tan Siw Sin and Transport Minister Tan Sri Sardon are also seen seated between the past and present leaders of the MIC.

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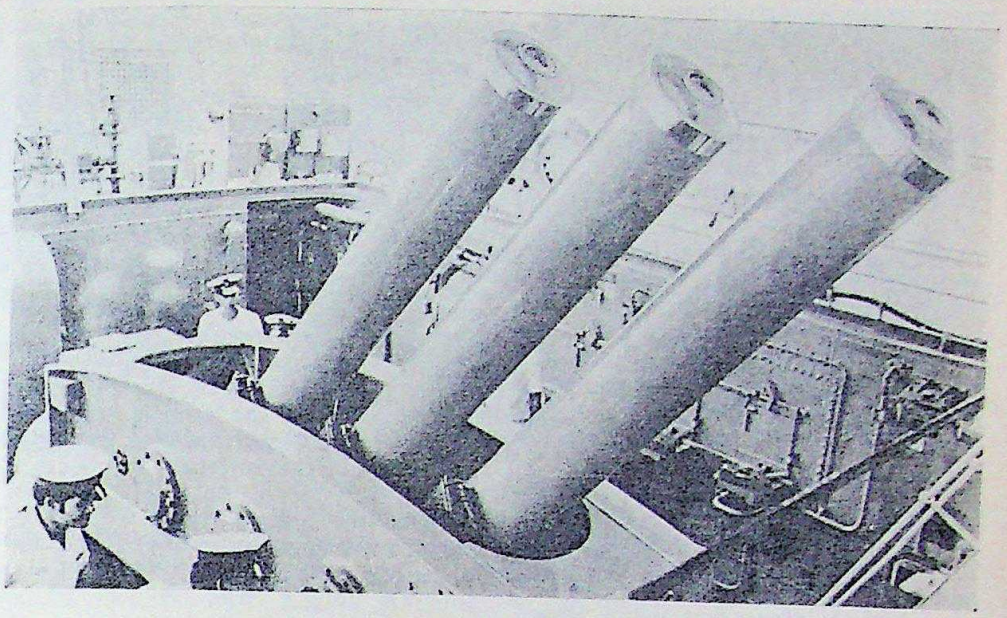
within a country of the size of India. A departing envoy usually measures the eventfulness of his tour of duty by indications of increased cooperation between his own country and the country of his accredition. There is no doubt that, within the limits of their regional and national interests, India and Singapore have come to know each other better in the past three and half years.

Mr Coomaraswamy

Prime Minister Mr Lee Kuan Yew paid two official visits to India during this period and Dr Goh Keng Swee, the Defence Minister and Mr S. Rajaratnam, the Foreign Minister, followed him for separate visits last year.

Indian frigate visits Singapore

Ready for action is this impressive triple anti-submarine mortar launcher of the Nilgiri, the pride of the Indian Navy. Missiles and mortars are the main features of this modern frigate, the first Indian-made warship to sail into Singapore on a goodwill visit. The 373 ft. (113,69 metres) long 3,000 ton ship, which sailed recently on her maiden cruise, is equipped with anti-aircraft guns, anti-submarine mortars and vessel detection devices. Among them is the triple anti-submarine mortar launcher capable of firing 20 salvos in quick succession. There is also a long range, early warning submarine detection sonar and a medium-range, computerised attack sonar for tracking down underwater vessels, and an Aloutte Mark III helicopter on board, armed with airlaunched, anti-submarine torpedoes.



The Nilgiri with its triple motor launcher.

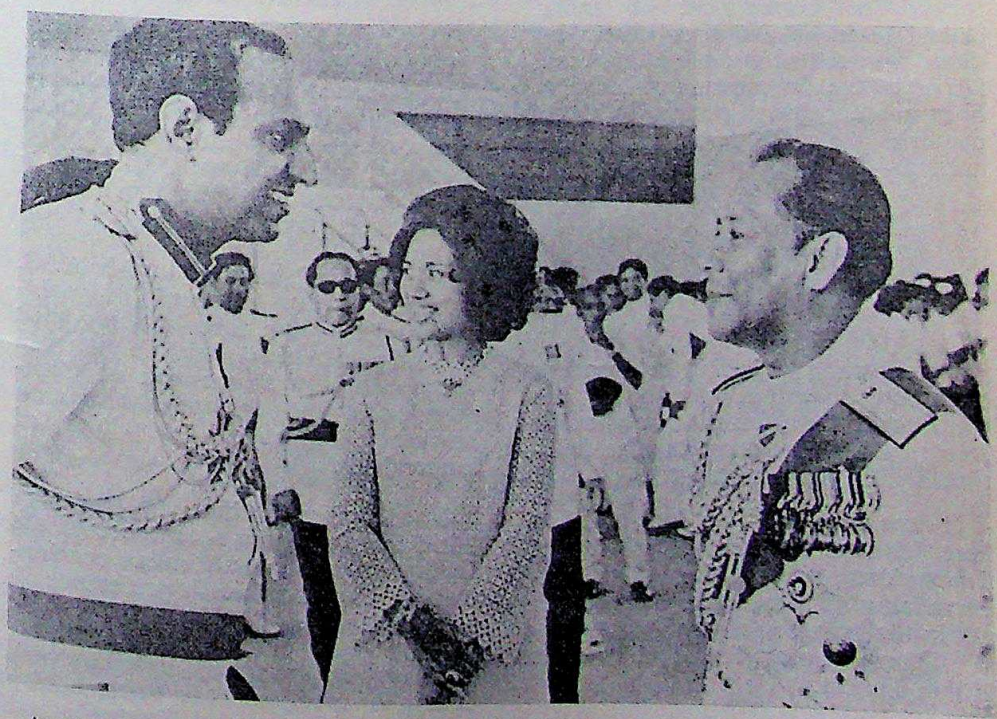
An Invitation

In an interview on board the year-old frigate berthed at Sembawang, the ship's commander, Capt. Daljit Singh Paintlal Said:

"We have had a successful visit here with a fruitful exchange of ideas with Singapore naval personnel. Our officers have established good rapport with local naval officers, and we have extended an invitation to the Singapore Maritime Command to visit India in return. It's been two years goodwill call on Singapore, and our since an Indian naval vessel paid a mutual discussions on modern equipment, technical development and problems has benefitted both sides."

Capt. Paintal, 47, paid courtesy calls on the Permanent Secretary (Defence), Mr Pang Tee Pow, Brig. Kirpa Ram Vij, Singapore Maritime Commander, Lt. Col. James Aeria, and the Indian High Commissioner, Mr Thomas Abraham, and hosted a shipboard party for top naval and armed forces personnel in Singapore and local Indian officials.

—G. S. Muthukrishnan.



An informal chat . . . the King with Singapore's Brig.-Gen. Kirpa Ram Vij. In the centre is the Queen.

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GUYANA

Call for gesture to Indians abroad

Dr Gopal Singh, India's High Commissioner to Guyana said recently that the charges of economic exploitation, political interference and cultural exclusiveness often levelled against the Indian community residing abroad by the natives of the countries concerned were not correct.

Dr Singh was speaking at a function organised by 'The Forerunners' in Chandigarh, a north Indian city, 200 kilometres from New Delhi. He said that the Indians had not gone abroad of their own free will. Most of them made a living in other lands as labourers, shopkeepers, factory workers and of course, many were professionals, but a few if any were big industrialists. Therefore, the accusation that they were affluent people, exploiters or social parasites was not justified against the whole community.

Dr Sing expresed the view that the Indians abroad had to contend with political, social and colour prejudices. They had not been integrated in the mainstream of the political and social life of their country of adoption.

He called upon the Government of India to make a goodwill gesture to Indians living abroad. Their children should be asked to come and be given facilities for education in academic and professional colleges in India. In fact, seats should be reserved for them. The Government of India should invest in countries where Indians have settled in sizable numbers. He urged the Government of India to open more cultural centres in these countries so as to promote Indian culture.—**Shamlal Puri.**

TRIPOLI / LIBYA

"An Evenng in India" held on the tastefully decorated grounds of the residence of the Indian Ambassador was adjudged most spectacular function held in Tripoli recently.

It was organised by Indian ladies here headed by Mrs Homi J. H. Taleyarkhan, wife of the Indian Ambassador and Mrs Janki Neechamul, under the auspices of the International Group whose President is Mrs Mohd. Leheta.

The four-hour long programme comprised of classical dances, beginning with "Bharat Natyam" and ending with the popular group "Gerba". Programme included as its colourful highlight "styles in Indian saries and Jewellery" from various States of our country with an adequate commentary given for each presentation.

With Indian ladies in Tripoli participating in this performance each one of the styles presented drew enormous applause from distinguished gathering comprising of the Diplomatic Corps and many other members of different nationalities and a number of Libyans. Several Libyan ladies wore Indian saris for the occasion and all ladies were welcomed by the auspicious 'tikki' on their foreheads.

A typical Indian dinner which followed was greatly enjoyed and the fascinating film "Dancing Feet" showing folk dances from all over India, was greatly admired.

The 'piece de resistance' was reserved for the last item of the day, namely, lucky number draw and 31 lucky members or guests won attractive typically Indian prizes.

The most coveted one, a gift Air India return passage to India was won by a Palestinian lady

The organisers were flooded with congratulations on the conclusion of the programme.

KENYA

India & East Africa trade ties

Three African countries—Tanzania, Zambia and Kenya—have expressed their willingness to enter into annual trade agreements with India on the lines of their pacts with East European countries to offset the balance of payments problems.

The proposal, mooted by Mr A. C. Geogre, deputy minister of commerce, during his fortnight-long visit to these countries, will be worked out outside the framework of Commonwealth and European Common Market based on the principles of bilateralism.

In an informal chat with newsmen Mr George said the acceptance of the Indian proposal would mean continuance of Commonwealth preference in bilateral trade.

While India's trade balance with Kenya is marginal, it is substantially adverse in the case of Tanzania and Zambia—Rs 13 crores and Rs 15 crores respectively.

During his visit to these countries, Mr George held wide-ranging talks with ministers of respective governments. He had also a meeting with the Tanzanian President, Dr Julius Nyerere.

Mr George said both Tanzania and Zambia had welcomed Indian consultancy service for the development of their industrial infrastructure. Request for such consultancy service had come from these countries.

Tanzania has informed Mr George that she favoured the formation of an international community for cardamom in order to protect the interest of growers.

In fact, Tanzania wants India to supply a draft in this regard. India, the largest producer of cardamom, earns up to Rs 10 crores annually from cardamom export.

Mr George said the National Industrial Development Corporation had entered into a blanket contract with the National Development Corporation in Tanzania to undertake feasibility studies.

In the past six months, Mr George said India had exported construction materials, transport equipment, including luxury buses, and consumer goods worth Rs 7.5 crores to Zanzibar.

He referred to India's participation in the recent Ndola trade fair in Zambia and said firm contracts worth Rs 1.1 crores had been entered into. Besides, India had won a contract for Rs 1.5 crores from Zambia for the construction of the spillway of Kapue dam.

Mr George said that Kenya had agreed to examine the question of removing the anti-dumping duty on Indian engineering goods.

Following his talks, Mr George said Kenya had also agreed to withdraw the ban on the import of Indian fruits, especially apple and mango. The ban has been in existence since the twenties.

Mr George said Zambia had expressed her interest in the import of road transport and road building equipment from India.

Mr George said Zambia would shortly send a purchasing mission to India.

He had offered to Zambia railway wagons.

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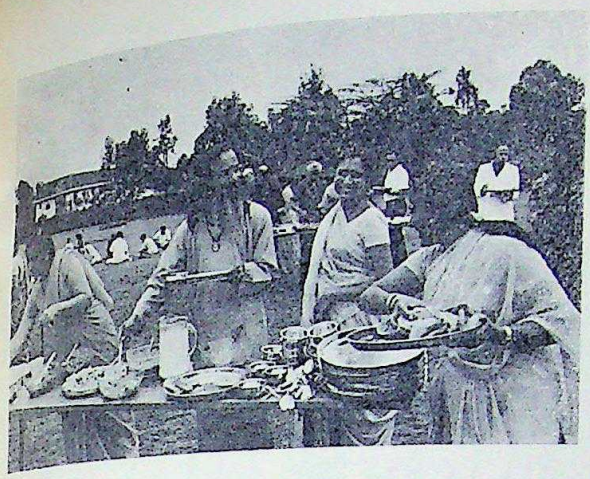
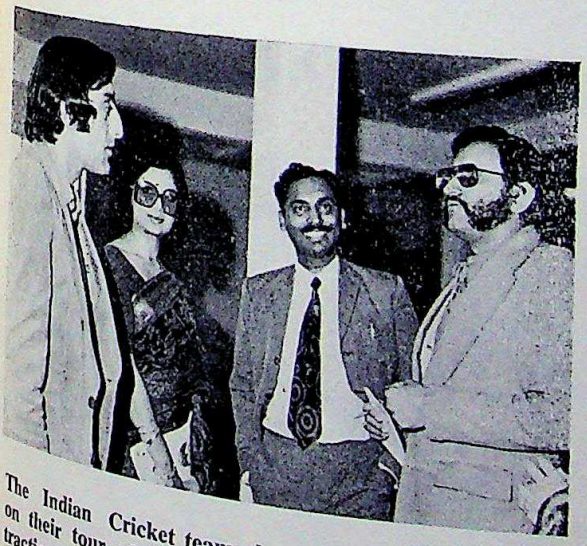


A farewell get-together with a difference was recently held at the home of Mr Gulab and Manju Vadgama in Nairobi to say goodbye to Swami Krishna Saraswati of Bhagwan Rajneesh's Life Awakenng Centre in Bombay India.

Outside the Vadgama residence in a Nairobi suburb, a plaque proclaims 'Anandneed Rajneesh Meditation Centre' and so what could be more appropriate than a 'One day Meditation Seminar' to say farewell to the resident guru?

The morning started with a 40 minute Active Meditation exercise followed by refreshments. Then a tape and discussion session was held during which Bhagwan Rajneesh recorded tapes of answers to pertinent questions were played and discussion ensued by the participants.

After an open air buffet lunch (picture) a film show of the Meditation Camp presided by Rajneesh was exhibited.

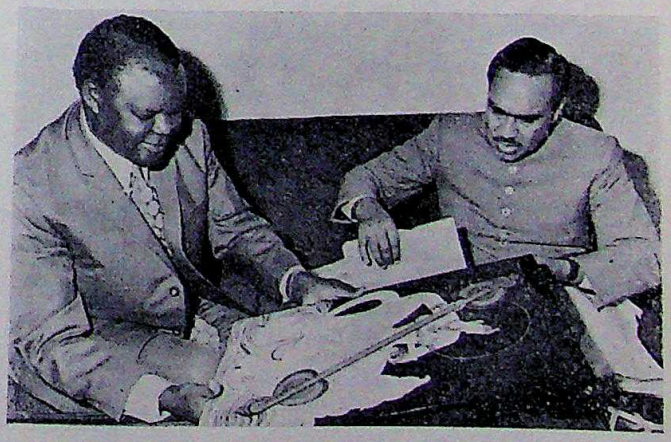


The Indian Cricket team brought 'a maiden over' on their tour of East Africa. And what a star attraction she was in the lovely form of Sharmila Tagore.

Sharmila bowled her fans over at Nairobi Airport when she landed and met her husband, the captain of the cricket team, the Nawab of Patudi Mansoor Khan. Picture shows Mansoor Khan, Sharmila Tagore, Mr S. K. Bhatnagar of the Indian High Commission in Nairobi and our correspondent Kul Bhushan at the Airport.

A well known Kenyan photographer, Mr Sudesh Tateri is seen here presenting an album of his colour and black and white pictures of the Indian Republic Day Celebrations to the Indian High Commissioner to Kenya Mr K. C. Nair. Mr Tateri's work has been published in THE INDIAN.

The Bhartiya Swamsevak Sangh in Nairobi held a special condolence meeting to pay homage to Guru M. S. Golwalkar who died in India in early June. Picture shows the sacred 'havan' ceremony being held in the Deendayal Bhavan of the RSS in Nairobi.



The Mayor of Delhi, Mr Kidar Nath Sahani, who recently paid a 12-days visit to Kenya, paid a courtesy call on the Minister for Local Government, Mr J. C. N. Osogo, in Nairobi on May 2, 1973. He is seen here presenting an Indian painting to Mr Osogo.

Mr Sahani was later involved in a dramatic rescue attempt in Mombasa during which he saved the life of a top Indian High Commission official.

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BURMA

Indian Music and Arts Society

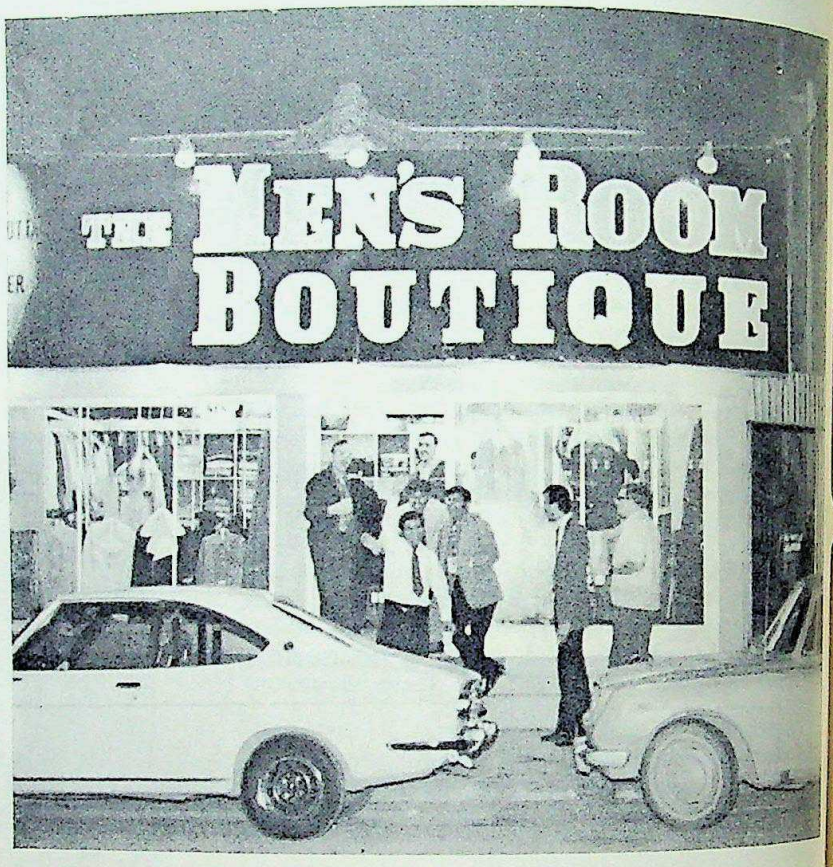
The Society has set two objectives to promote and propagate the finer aspects of Indian music with a view also to build up good taste among the listening public and to highlight the integrating forces between the Indian and Burmese music. Membership of the society numbers 64.

To mark the 25th Anniversary of India's Independence the Indian Embassy held a special show at the Jubilee Hall on 15 August 1973. This Society contributed a programme of folk dances and music which was highly appreciated by all arts lovers of the city. This event was outstanding among the activities of the Society. It also presented two films shows. The feature film "Madhumati" was screened at the residence of Mr S. N. Banerjee which was well attended by members and their families. Another show was arranged when films on outstanding classical musicians of India was screened, and a programme of light music was presented. A programme of light classical music was held at the residence of Mr P. K. Ghosh, our patron and past president. This musical meeting was also meant to bid farewell to President Mr C. N. Banerjee and family, to whom a miniature harp of Burmese lacquework was presented as a momemto on behalf of the Society, on the eve of his departure for Dacca on transfer. Mr K. R. Krishnaswami, Minister, Embassy of India, Rangoon and others paid glorious tribute to the fine work Mr Banerjee had done. He has been a driving force and Mrs Tapati Banerjee has contributed immensely to the cultural programmes in Rangoon.

New Office Bearers

Mr C. N. Banerjee, President; Mr Kirit M. Shah, Vice President; Dr K. P. Chowdhery, Vice President; Mr R. A. Gandhi, Secretary; Mr R. Chakraborty, Jt. Secretary; Mr K. N. Shah, Treasurer; Dr Thakur, Dr Om Prakash, Mr Zorasingh, Mr R. M. Desai, Mr Bhagat Ram, Mr M. L. Chakraborty, Mr M. S. Keinth, Mr G. Ranga Rao, Mr Hiralal Dhanuka Committee Members.

OKINAWA



The new Men's Wear shop opened here with an unusual name Men's Room. The opening was attended by the Indian Community of Okinawa.

At a cocktail party hosted by Frank Fabiani on the opening of Men's Room. Seen above are some friends of Frank.

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UNITED KINGDOM

Indian Vice-Chairman of Sports Body

Mr D. N. Chadda has been elected a Vice-Chairman of the Sligo Rovers Sports Association of the Republic of Ireland.

A double graduate from East Punjab University, Mr Chadda is a Professor of Mathematics in the Summer Hill College in Sligo.

Mr D. N. Chadda

Mr Chadda is the first Indian to occupy such a high post of distinction in the sphere of sports in Ireland. He has been the director of the above club since last twelve years. He is closely connected with Sligo Rover Football Club which is a leading club of the Republic of Ireland.

Immigration act protest march

The **Indian Workers Association (Southall)** and other immigrant organisations in Britain are organising a march to Downing Street to protest against the retrospective effect of the 1971 immigration Act which permits the deportation of immigrants who entered the country unlawfully before 1971.

The march will assemble at Hyde Park Corner at 2.30 p.m.

Crash Helmet Issue

Following the refusal of Transport Minister John Peyton to exempt the Sikh community in the UK from the new legislation requiring motor cyclists to wear crash helmets, Mr Winston Churchill MP last week framed an 'early day motion" which has received support from MPs of all parties in the House of Commons.

The motion reads that "this House, recognising that Sikhs fighting with Britain in two world wars were exempt from wearing steel helmets in the front line of battle and aware of the difficulties faced by the Sikh community in complying with the regulations for the compulsory wearing of crash helmets by motor cyclists, calls on the Government to accord the Sikhs the same rights as they had in two world wars". Among the MPs who have signed the motion are Mr John Biggs-Davidson, Mr Frank Allaun, Mr Richard Crosman and Rear Adml. Morgan Giles.

The **Shromani Akali Dal UK,** under its president Mr Joginder Singh Sandhu, has been and is still actively canvassing for exemption for Sikhs from the crash helmet requirement. A delegation visited Mr John Peyton in April to make representations. Following Mr Peyton's decision not to grant exemption, the Council has continued to gather support from amongst British MPs of all parties.

* * *

SIERRA LEONE

Indian Mercantile Association donates money

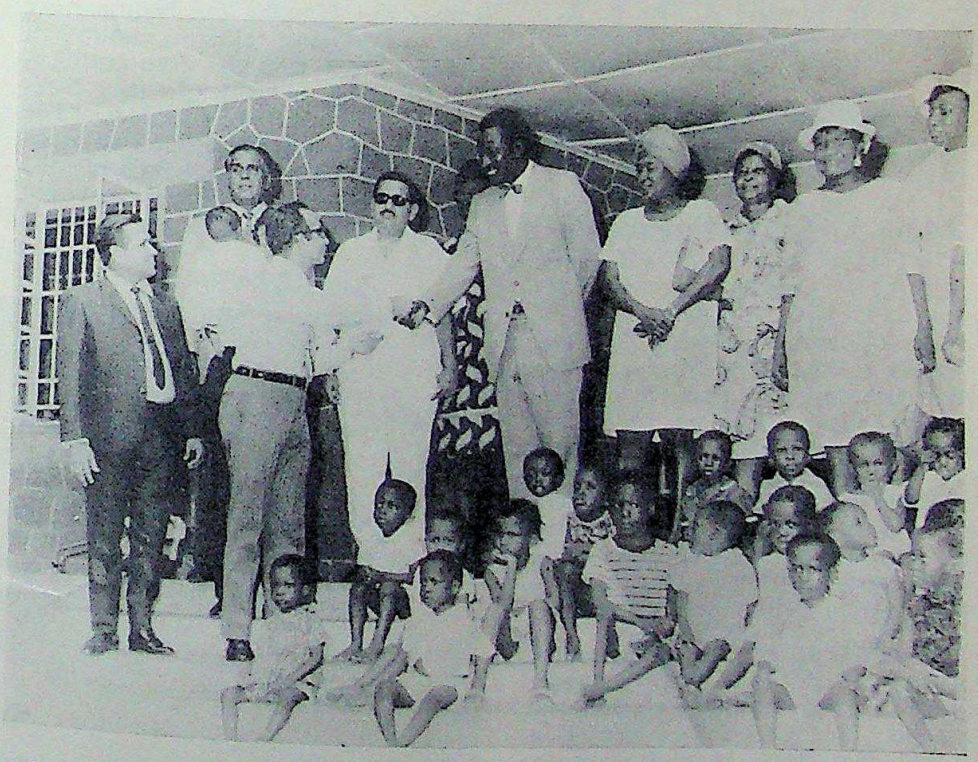
The Indian Mercantile Association donated a Le 200 cheque to the Chlidren Home Association at Wilberfore.

Presenting the cheque to the Patron Dr Claudins Cole, the Secretary Mr L. B. Mahbubani said that the Indian Association had much pleasure in presenting the cheque for the improvement of children of the home.

He said that they were confident that the amount would be used for the betterment of the institution and the children would benefit from the donation.

The children's home was well known and they trusted the caretakers would keep up the good work, he said.

Replying, Dr Claudius Cole thanked the Association for the great effort which they had made in presenting the Le 200. He said that it was only by these kind of donations made by organisation that would help to bring up the children.



On 6th June 1973, the Indian Mercantile Association of Freetown presented cash donation of Le 200 to S. L. Children Home Association.

Photo shows Mr L. B. Mahbubani handing over the cheque to Dr Claudins Code the patron of the association. Other in the photo are from L. to R.: Mr Hari of International Traders, Mr P. Choithram of M/s Pee Ce and Sons, Mr Mukhi (completely hidden behind Mr Mahbubani), Mr V. V. Meghnani of S. L. Supermarkets and Stores (M.T.C.) Ltd., Dr Claudins Cole, Mrs Percy Davies, wife of the speaker of House (Parliament), and other officers of the Home, who work for the Home freely and Volunteerly.

Also cash donation were given personally by Mr Muklin, Mr Meghnani and Mr Hari to the Home of Le 50, Le 36, Le 20 respectively.

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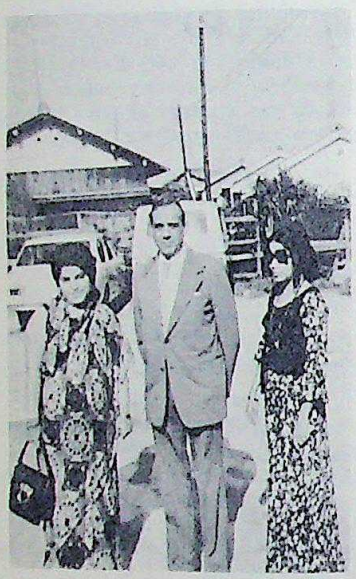
IWAKUNI / JAPAN

The Consul General of India (Kobe) paid a short visit to Iwakuni. He had a real nice time while he was here. Lately Iwakuni has been receiving a lot of visitors and amongst theme were Mrs Ganga T. Samtani, Mrs Kanta A. Samtani and Miss Bina.



Mr H. R. Ahuja photographed with Mrs H. R. Samtani & Mrs P. R. Samtani.

UNITED STATES

India-America Friendship Day

India-America Friendship Day was recently celebrated, at Marina Junior High School Auditorium, San Francisco. The occasion was the 22nd anniversary of the Cultural Integration Fellowship which was founded by Dr Haridas Chaudhuri president of California Institute of Asian Studies, with a view to promoting inter-cultural understanding between America and India.

Dances from India were presented by Mrs Daksha Shah, Miss Purnima, receptionist of the Consulate General of India, and some American girls trained by Mrs Indrani Iyengar. Sanskrit **stotras** were chanted by American disciples of Dr Rammurti Mishra. Complicated Yoga postures were demonstrated by Swami Sivalingam and his American disciples. A string quartet was conducted by Ella Tarkam, registrar of the California Institute. The internationally noted baritone, Walter Hinton who sang at the 1968 Presidential Inauguration Ceremonial and Munich Olympics in 1972—held the audience spellbound with his golden voice.

More than 500 people including Indians and Americans attended the function.

Part of the celebration was the participation of Dr Gordon Agnew, Professor Emeritus of the University of California Medical Center, who gave an excellent talk on the Need of Intercultural Understanding for World Peace. Sreelekha Sen delighted the audience with Tagore songs.

TURKEY

Indian Photographic Exhibition

Inaugurating Photographic Exhibition of India on the occasion of 'India Day' marking 25th Anniversary of Indian Independence at Ankara on June 28, His Excellency Mr Ismail Hakki Tekinel, Minister of State, said: "In the sub-continent of India possessing a rich heritage and having served as the cradle to ancient civilizations, the descendents of great leaders like Gandhi and Nehru, have been developing their country in planned order with the deep gratification of being worthy of their forefathers. The Minister added: "The Indian photographic exhibition constitutes yet another example of the growing cultural exchanges between our two countries. He commended which constitutes an important step to help us gain a proper perspective about the friendly nation of India."

The distinguished gathering consisting of Ministers, Parliamentarians, Foreign Office officials, Professors, Journalists and members of the Indo-Turkish Cultural Association, including the Indian experts in Turkey and the Indian community, was present at the French Cultural Centre, where the exhibition was held on two floors. Besides the photographs of India after Independence divided under eight sections, one section comprises photographs of Indo-Turkish cultural interest and Indo-Turkish relations.

Indian Parliamentarians

Four Indian Parliamentarians, returning from West Germany where a nine-member Parliamentary Delegation had been on tour, paid an unofficial visit to Ankara, for two days, June 29-30.

The Parliamentarians were: Mr S. Abdul Kader (Bombay-Congress), Mr Narendrasingh Bisht (U.P.-Congress), Mr Roshan Lal (Himachal Pradesh-Congress), and Mr T. Kiruttinan (D. M. K.-Madras). They visited Anit Kabir and were taken round the Ataturk Mausoleum and Museum by Mr Idris Ozmen, the Director of the Museum. They visited the Hittite Museum. At the Museum they were happy to see a copy of "The Mystery and Beauty of Hittite Art"—the special Number of Marg, Bombay edited by Dr Mulk Raj Anand, who was invited by the Turkish Government to visit the monuments of Turkey in 1971.

On the opening of the Indian Exhibition in Ankara to mark the 25th Anniversary of India's Independence, seen (from left to right) Ambassador K. R. Narayanan, Honble Mr Ismail Hakki Tekinel, Minister of Information & Culture of the Turkish Government, Mr A. B. Karasapan, Director of the Information Ministry and Mrs Narayanan.

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Gleanings from Indian press

About This And That

Rupee Trade

Air India and even Indian Airlines (on such flights as are regarded as "foreign") disdainfully refuse to accept rupees for duty-free cigarettes and liquor.

But the experience of a colleague who has returned home after having lived a long time in the West should hearten sterling-starved Indian travellers abroad.

He discovered to his pleasant surprise that the rupee is not as unwanted as is generally believed. Outside Swiss banks in Geneva, for example, he was greeted by commissionaires who said that the gnomes inside would gladly accept "black rupees".

Outside the striptease joints in Place Pigalle in Paris, some watchmen announce their offer to accept rupees—white or black—in reasonably fluent Hindi. (Have they taken their cue from an advertisement of a new French perfume which shows an elegant bottle resting against a crisp 100-rupee note?)

This does not mean, however, that the Indian traveller is sought after everywhere in western Europe. Our colleague was mortified indeed when he overheard a fellow-Indian ask the salesgirl at the duty-free shop at Frankfurt airport the price of a Leica camera.

"Don't bother to ask," she replied coolly, "it's more than your foreign exchange allowance."

The moral of the story perhaps is: Bank Swiss and shop French but neevr look for bargains in West Germany.

Of Bugs And Sleepers

A leading language daily of Bhopal seems to have taken too literal a view of the CIA's bugging activity.

While reporting Mr Jack Anderson's latest revelations, the paper has informed its readers that field operators of the CIA had, in fact introduced *khatmals* and other "bugs" into the Chinese embassy and these had been "sucking the blood of the Chinese diplomats for a year before they got wise to the CIA's tricks".

Such linguistic slips have, of course, taken place before. There is the case of a Hindi newspaper, for example, which, on receiving a news agency message that several thousand sleepers had been washed away from a railway line, splashed the news that several thousand people sleeping near the track had been swept to a watery grave.

Appearing before the press commission some weeks after the unhappy episode, the paper's proprietor-editor explained that the sub-editor's mistaken translation went into the paper only because he himself was fast asleep at that time.

Home From Home

"Two elderly ladies in macs and tweeds, each accompanied by a well-brushed Labrador, walk up the hill to Spencers.

There they buy Wensleydale cheese, some Rose's lime-juice and a bar of Pears soap. They browse a little at Higginbotham's

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bookshop before walking down the hill to Charing Cross for some more shopping. Then they go back to their rose-covered home named Apple Cottage. Could this be India?"

Thus begins the despatch of a foreign correspondent from this country, and he surely is writing about India. About Ootacamund, in fact, although, as he reports, no one calls it anything but Ooty, the name given to the hill station by Sullivan, the district magistrate of Coimbatore, who founded it in the first place as an escape from the heat, dirt, poverty and squalor of the plains.

The foreign correspondent records that the city retains its British names and character—"even the drizzle here is English"—but the hill station is now indubitably Indian. Only a handful of retired colonels, tea plantation managers and old maids are a reminder of the era that has gone by, and "altogether Ooty is no longer as snooty as it used to be".

Barrel Of A Gun

Several colleagues travelling overseas have noticed a strange new craze among Indians returning home from abroad. Forsaking gadgets and even gold, they seem to be buying guns these days. At the counter at Heathrow where goods meant for export are delivered to passengers of international airlines, for example, threre is usually a queue of Indians and Pakistanis waiting for the revolvers and pistols they have ordered.

Customs officials in Delhi confirm that many more travellers are bringing back guns these days than ever before, and that the lure of the gun has affected also the law-makers.

Nearly half the members of a parliamentary delegation recently, it seems, brought back guns with them. Some of them did not have a valid licence which was obtained later.

According to well-informed sources it is not the fear of violence which makes people buy guns. The real reason is that even after full duty has been paid on an imported gun, it fetches a very handsome profit.

In other words, political power is not the only thing that grows out of the barrel of a gun. So does financial gain and, to some people at least, this seems to mater a lot more.

Remarkable Feat

Professor John Gittings, one of Britain's leading Sinologists, has performed the remarkable—some might say, virtually impossible—feat of deflating Professor John Kenneth Galbraith.

And he has done so by tearing to bits Prof Galbraith's book on China. *A China Passage,* written after "two weeks in China in the footsteps of Dick and Pat, and a chat with a deputy foreign minister."

It is not the instant nature of the book that Prof. Gittings objects to. On the contrary, he says that, "like all other trippers who ahve eaten duck in Peking," Prof. Galbraith should have written the book.

Nor is he displeased because Prof. Galbraith enthusiastically approves everything Chinese, for this only reflects the prevailing mood among many American professors who have seen the future in China, admired it immensely, and decided it is not for them."

What has annoyed Prof. Gittings—and this should be of interest to readers in this country—is Prof Galbraith's "ineffable patronising" of India while frequently comparing how the two Asian giants manage their affairs.

For instance, the former U.S. ambassador to this country says in his book that in Madras once he crossed all the way from the airport to the U.S. consulate "without seeing more than ten people in each hundred who were either employed or moving about in any visibly purposeful way." "In Canton," he adds, for good measure, "the proportions are reversed."

"Missing from Galbraith's analysis," comments Prof. Gittings, "is the suggestion that nine out of ten Indians might also like to work if given the chance, and that the collective goals and methods of a socialist society might partly explain why it can be done in China and not in India".

Prof. Gittings also makes fun of Prof. Galbraith's "dazzling discovery" that fruit prices in China vary according to supply and even "vegetables are reduced at the end of the day to clear stocks." "Did Galbraith really expect the Chinese to let the rot?" he asks pungently.

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Selections

TV Star

Mr Raunaq Singh, the ebullient Sikh industrialist who headed a delegation of the engineering export promotion council to Latin America, has returned home in high spirits.

He told a press conference in New Delhi the other day that trade prospects with that continent were "extraordinarily good."

Some newsmen naturally took this with a pinch of salt. They were quick to point out that virtually nothing had come of the visits of two previous delegations to south America.

Mr Raunaq Singh said he could not answer for the previous delegations, but the one led by him had been 'a big hit" everywhere. In all the countries visited by his team, the local authorities had lost no time in featuring him on their television shows.

"But that must be because they have never seen a gentleman with such a lush beard before," quipped a newsman.

Mr Raunaq Singh admitted amidst laughter that this might have been part of the reason for his TV popularity. But he would soon make himself known far better in Latin America by bagging some export orders.

Courtesy: The Times of India, Bombay.

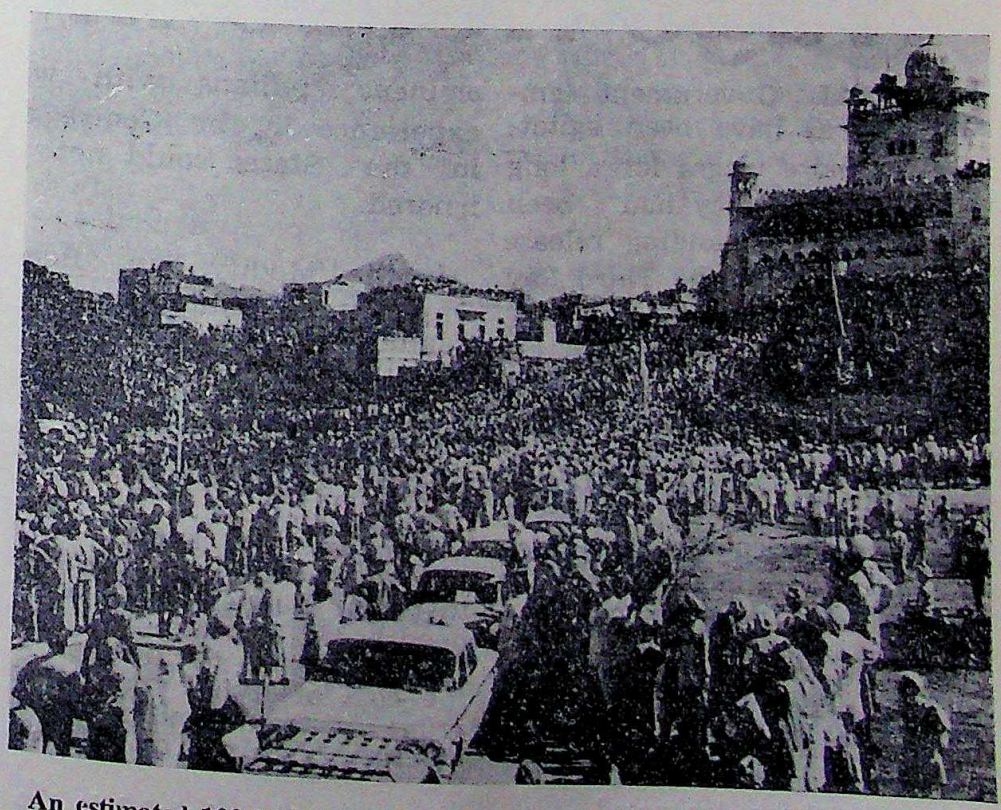
Guru Gobind Singh Marg inaugurated

The Sikhs are known for the long processions that they usually organise to commemorate important days in their religious calendar. Recently, the predominantly Sikh State of Punjab saw one of the largest processions ever. The occasion was the inauguration of the 640-kilometre-long Guru Gobind Singh Marg (road) that connected about 90 sacred spots associated with the 10th Guru, the founder of the Khalsa.

The procession travelled from Anandpur Sahib, the headquarters of the Guru, to Damdama Sahib, in Bhatinda district. It was led by two drum-beaters riding an elephant and four army and police bands. They were followed by mounted Nihangs (religious soldiers) in their typical dress. Mounted Army and police personnel and army tanks also formed part of the procession followed by the Guru Granth Saheb, the holy book of the Sikhs, placed on a flowerbedecked bus.

Behind came another bus carrying some of the relics of Guru Gobind Singh. They included two steel arrows, two steel "chakras" and a dagger. Two stallions, believed to be direct descendants of the Guru's personal horse, Jaanbhai, were carried in a truck. The 30-kilometre-long processsion included nearly 5,000 cars and 1,000 trucks and buses. More than 200,000 people participated in it. Besides, millions thronged both sides of the 640-kilometre route to pay homage.

The historic town of Anandpur, which had been the Guru's headquarters three centuries ago, wore a festive appearance. It was tastefully decorated with multi-coloured flags and bunting. Many welcome arches had been put up. Before the procession started, leaders from all religions and communities, including Muslims, Christians and Jains, and political leaders of different affiliations, like the Akali Dal and the Jan Sangh, paid homage to the Guru and complimented the State Government for constructing the road. Led by Chief Minister Zail Singh, they pledged to redicate



An estimated 100,000 devotees begin the Maha Yatra along the 640-km-long highway in Punjab named after Guru Gobind Singh. In the background is Gurdwara Anandpur Sahib.

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themselves to the service of the nation and to wage a relentless war on religious fanaticism and social inequalities. Nearly 200,000 men, women and children lustily cheered them when they took the pledge.

The Guru had been a great friend of the downstrodden. It was therefore fitting that the honour of unveiling a pillar (20 were erected in different places) outside the shrine in Anandpur, was given to one of the workmen who helped build it. Twenty-five-year old Bhajan Lal, a Rajput, pressed the button that released the drapes around the pillar. Simultaneously drums were beaten, bugles blown, crackers exploded and balloons released.

Then began the four-day procession. Three aircraft flew over and dipped in salute. On the way devotees offered cold water and small packets of eatbles to the marches. The blazing sun and the intense heat could not dampen their ardour and enthusaism.

Despite Zail Singh's statement that there was no political motive behind the inauguration of the "holy road," the Akali Dal made a bid to take advantage of the occasion. The Chief Minister's appeal to all political parties not to raise communal or sectarian slogans during the course of the procession was respected by all the participants however.

Family Planning — Indian Style

The news item that there was no rush this year for admission to the first standard in schools in Kerala, was considered as a sign that family planning schemes have succeeded. And well they might be. With pressurised sterilisation, legalised abortion, "pill" glorification, and mass "vasectomisation", and the radio blaring forth all about the advantages of a small family, it is a wonder that the population of the Indian nation has not been decimated.

No one, of course, quarrels with the proposition that in these days of spiralling prices, cascading costs, and the drearth of good basic fare, our numbers must be kept down. But does this at all justify the crude, unaesthetic and vulgar propaganda to which our youngesters have been subjected in this unseemly campaign?

Those horrid posters screaming, "Two is Enough, Three Never,' with pictures of Dad and Mom with son and daughter on either side are enough to turn your stomach. Radio plays also carrying the message of planned parenthood make you feel like throwing the set out of the window.

To carry the message home, it would have been enough to have pinpointed present-day problems for the man with a family that exceeds the limit, and livened up the propaganda with posters saying "Your little one eats his weight in 21 days", and "prices of *baba* suits and baby foods are shooting up", and so forth. Bland statements like "Your grandfather had only one dhotie and no shirt. Would you like to put the clock back for your next child?" or homely ones like "Once upon a time, our land was flowing with milk and honey; but today what flows is silk (smuggled) money (black) but children can't be fed on that", are also calculated to get results. They could even have tightened up the screw by issuing statements like the following: "Government have now issued strict instructions that every third child is to be named Nirodhan, if a boy, and Nirodhini, if a girl. So see your doctor before you get that gleam in your eye".

Nursery rhymes like:

Pappa and Ma
Went out today,
And bought themselves a packet:
Said Pa with glee:
'Its so cheap, you see,
Just fifteen n.p. for three'

would have been helpful in the home and elsewhere, and the great advantages of modelling the publicity on these lines is that the children would never have guessed what it is all about.

Adolf Hitler solved the problem of over-population in pre-war Germany by raising the cry of "lebensraum" or living space for the master race. He fought a global war, along with Japan, another overpopulated country, and the world never knew that it was a pure family-planning stunt. But nearer home, recent experience has shown that when we fight a war, we are stuck more mouths to feed than at the start. Being burdened, of course, with a great cultural heritage, we couldn't just follow in the foreigners' footsteps, and had to devise our own ways of fighting the unborn.

Hats off to that Indian genius who thought up cash gifts and other inducements to check population growth. We have now seen that the average Indian, for all his great cultural background, is prepared to sacrifice future generations of Indians for a transistor radio and twenty-five rupees in hard cash.

The Astronauts of Apollo 1[illegible] Messers Eugene A. Cernan, Ron[illegible] E. Evans and Harrison H. Schm[illegible] laid a wreath at the Samadhi [illegible] Mahatma Gandhi at Rajghat, Del[illegible] on June 19, 1973, shortly after th[illegible] arrival in the capital.

Photo shows the Astronauts [illegible] ceeding to the Samadhi to place [illegible] wreath.

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UK entry rules mar racial atmosphere

Britain's new immigration rules have damaged the racial atmosphere in this country, the annual report of the Community Relations Commission said.

The report said the new rules, which deal in part with Britain's obligations as a member of the European common market, also extend privileges previously afforded to citizens of the old (white) Commonwealth.

At the same time, the Government has said it would continue to accept responsibility for holder of British passports by admiting them through special vouchers to maintain good community realations.

But the annual report of the Government-appointed commission said: "It is impossible honestly to separate this objective from immigration policy and we are bound to record our view that the acceptance of these rules damaged the atmosphere in which we must work."

Under the new rules accepted by Parliament last February, Commonwealth citizens with a British-born parent or grand parent are allowed unimpeded access to settle in Britain. This in effect mainly favours the white Commonwealth countries.

Top Indian physicist accuses US scientist of stealing his work

A top Indian physicist has accused an American scientist of "stealing my work" and earning credit for his theory which could some day make it possible, among other things, to establish instantaneous communications with the stars. It now takes eight years to send a radio signal to the nearest star and get it back.

Dr E. C. G. Sudarshan, the theoretical physicist, said in an exclusive interview to P.T.I. that he was the first to predict—in a 1960 paper — the existence of objects travelling faster than light now known as "Tachyons."

But eight years later Dr Gerald Feinberg, an American physicist, "bodily stole my work," and made it look as if it was his own by giving interviews to newspaper reporters and science fiction writers, he said.

The Amrican physicist never memtioned Dr Sudarshan's work in his interviews. And because of Dr Feinberg's salesmanship, "there are pepole even now who do not know that I did this work first," Dr Sudarshan said.

Indirect Credit

Dr Feinberg had, however, taken care in his publication in a scientific journal to give Dr Sudarshan, in a footnote, credit in an indirect and "legally satisfying manner."

Dr Feinberg's only contribution was talking to reporters and naming the particles Tachyons," Dr Sudarshan added.

Dr Sudarshan, who recently received an honorary doctorate from Delhi University, is the director of the centre for particle theory at the University of Texas in the U.S. Several weeks each year he visits the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, directing the new centre of theoretical studies.

Swaran Singh visits Iran

External Affairs Minister Swaran Singh said that Iran had pledged full support to India's policy of setting all its outstanding disputes with Pakistan peacefully and through bilateral agreements.

He told newsmen on his return from a two-day visit to Teheran that Iran had also been urging Pakistan to adopt a policy of "peace and good neighbourliness" towards India.

Mr. Swaran Singh who held discussions with Iranian Prime Minister Amir Abbas Hoveida and Foreign Minister Abbas Ali Khalatbari said they had appreciated the "positive initative taken by India to settle the humanitarian issues left by the India-Pakistan conflict."

Mr Swaran Singh, who also had an audience with the Shah of Iran said it was agreed that bilateral relations in economic and technological fields should be developed with greater speed.

He said the Foreign Minister of Iran was likely to visit India in winter.

Seamen quiet Iranian ship, return to city

Thirty-one Indian seamen working on an Iranian frighter have arrived in Bombay following a directive of the National Union of Seafarers of India to leave the ship said to be engaged in gun-running.

The men, belonging to the *Iran Niru,* were repatriated from Cape Town at the owners' cost.

Another batch of 37 Indian ratings of the Iranian steamer *Iran Shahr,* have also been recalled by the union for the same reason. They will be repatriated from Khoramshahr in Iran soon. The cost of air travel will be borne by the owners in this case also.

Their withdrawal followed allegations by the seamen that the vessels were carrying arms, ammunition, missiles and bombs from the U.S. to Iran. The seamen had also complained about the insulting behaviour of Iranian officers of the ships.

Fifty Indo-German link-ups in 1972

In 1972 the number of the new Indo-German collaborations sanctioned comes to 50 against 40 in 1971 and 36 in 1970, thus in 1972 Germany ranks second behind the U.S. with 61 new collborations sanctioned and followed by Great Britain with 38.

Practically all new Indo-German collaborations sanctioned during 1972 are technical collaborations. Out of the 50 newly sanctioned collaborations only 5 are financial collaborations, as compared to 7 in 1971 and 10 in 1970. This reflects to a certain extent the present policy to favour technical collaborations instead of sanctioning joint ventures.

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Miscellania

India signs seabed pact on A-arms

India has acceded to the seabed treaty which prohibits the emplacement of nuclear or other weapons of mass destruction on the seabed and the ocean floor.

In acceding to the treaty, India has made its view clear that the exploration and exploitation of the sea should be reserved for peaceful purposes and that serious efforts should be made to prevent an arms race on the seabed.

The instrument of accession was deposited by Indian diplomatic representatives in the capitals of the three depository governments — Washington, Moscow and London.

Eighty-nine countries have signed the treaty. Till the end of 1972, 46 had ratified or accepted to it.

Electronics export zone

An export processing zone for electronics is being set up a Marol in Bombay according to a State Government press, release.

Among the concessions that will be offered to prospective entrepreneurs are concessional rents or lease rents, duty-free import of capital goods and equipment exemption from customs and additional duty on raw materials and accessories and exemption from excise duties and other levies on products manufactured in the zone.

Other facilities to be offered are cash assistance and duty concessions regarding supplies from the rest of the country, advance import licences for raw materials equal to 12 months requirements and blanket permits of foreign exchange for visits abroad.

Those desirous of setting up units in the zone should submit their applications to Mr N. S. Vaidyanathan, member-secretary of the Santa Cruz Export Processing Zone Board, central Commerce Ministry.

The day-to-day administration of the zone will be handled by Mr. S. Rajagopal, development commissioner, Santa Cruz Export Processing Zone Authority.

Twenty-year-old Indian ace Vijay Amritraj who toppled Australia's three Davis Cuppers, Mal Anderson, Geoff Masters and John Cooper, to win the Hong Kong men's singles title recently. Vijay beat Cooper in th efinal 7-9, 6-2, 4-6, 6-4, 6-3.

India wins first prize in trade fair

For the first time, India has won the first prize in the international trade fair at Dar-es-Salaam in Tanzania.

Thirteen countries, including Britain, the Soviet Union, West Germany, Italy and Rumania, are participating. Last year's award had gone to China.

India to participate in three world fairs

India has decided to participate in the forthcoming International Trade Fairs at Algiers, Zagreb (Yugoslavia) and Berlin during September 1973.

The Algiers International Trade Fair is being held from September 1 to 17. According to the Ministry of Commerce sources, the Fair is an important international fair in Africa. It also attracts a large number of visitors and buyers from other African countries also.

The Zagreb International Autumn Fair is scheduled to be held from September 6 to 16. The Fair is stated to be the third largest of its kind in the world and one of the most important in East Europe.

The Berlin Fair will be held from September 21 to 25. The main theme of the Fair is "Partners for Progress." The Fair provides opportunity to exhibit a variety of goods, including iron and household wares, electrical equipment, textiles, clothing, shoes, leatherwares, carpets, toys, handicrafts and wooden ware.

The Vice-President, Shri G. S. Pathak, talking to His Excellency Mr Mohammed Musa Shafiq, Prime Minister of Afganistan (left), when the latter called on him at Chihilstoon Palace in Kabul on June 13, 1973.

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Orders for 87 ships

Indian shipping companies have placed orders for as many as 87 ships totalling nearly 22 lakh grt. Of these the order for 23 ships has been placed by the private sector and the rest by the public sector.

Orders abroad have been placed for 57 ships of 18.40 lakh grt and for 30 ships of about 3.20 lakh grt on indigenous shipyards. When these ships are received, the country will have a fleet of 348 merchant ships with a gross registered tonnage of 48.29 lakhs.

Poona TV relay centre to begin trials soon

The TV relay centre a Fort Simhagad, near Poona, will begin test trials soon.

Programmes of the Bombay TV centre will thereafter be regularly relayed from Poona to cover an area of 10,600 square kms.

The exact date of commissioning of the relay centre will be fixed after the test trails, which will be conducted during day time.

Alarm over spread of Oriental cult

One of Italy's largest-circulation dailies has sounded an alarm about oriental religious sects spreading to the West and "Preying" politically disillusioned young people.

Taking particular aim at the "Mission of the Divine Light" cult of a 15-year-old Indian Guru calling himself Maharajji, the Marxist-oriented Rome journal "Pease Sera" indicated that many of the eastern faiths were being financed by the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA).

The journal said that there were already 150 such groups in the United States, 35 in Britain, 15 in France and Switzerland, and ten each in Belgium, Canada, West Germany, Spain, Holland and Portugal.

Indian Haj ship sinks: thirty-nine dead

Thirty-nine of 97 people on board the Haj pilgrim ship, s.s. *Saudi,* which sank off Cape Guardafui on the East African coast are presumed to have perished.

While ten are known to have definitely died, the others listed as missing are also believed to have died. These 29 members of the crew could not get into lifeboats, according to information reaching Bombay.

The 57 survivors and the ten dead bodies were taken to Djibouti.

Nepal to Outlaw Cannabis, Opium

The sale and possession of cannabis drugs became illegal in Nepal on July 16.

Officials said licences issued to dealers for the sale of these drugs became invalid from that day and measures were being taken to seize all stocks from shops and cultivators.

The announcement came two days after the government said it had decided to ban the cultivation of cannabis, opium, and other drugs "because of the harmful influence of narcotic drugs on the young generation."

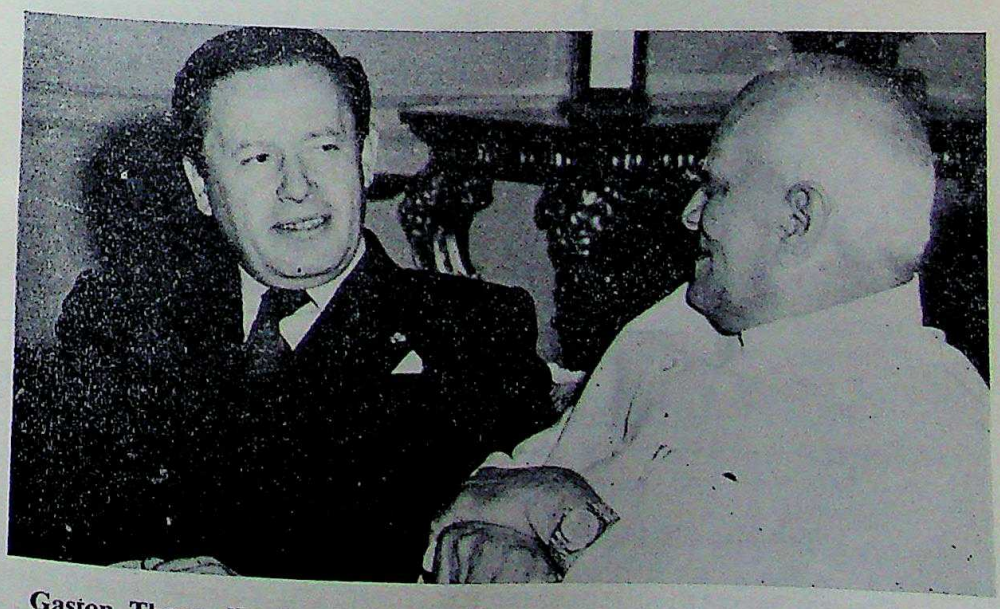
Nain will head monopoly panel

Mr Justice Jethalal Nain of the Bombay High Court has been appointed chairman of the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission.

He will take the oath of office at Rashtrapathi Bhavan on July 23.

Mr Justice Nain succeeds Mr Justice Allagiriswami who recently took over as a judge of the Supreme Court.

Mr Justice Jethalal Nain



Gaston Thorn, Foreign Minister of the Grand-Duchy of Luxembourg, was in India recently. He called on the President, Mr. V. V. Giri.

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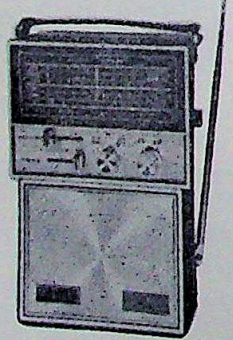

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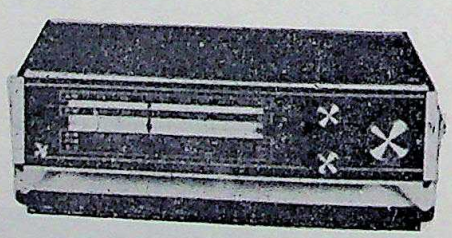

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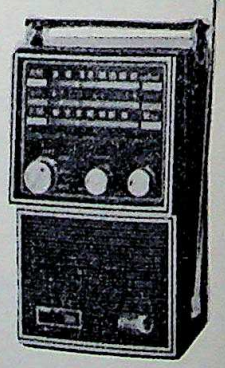

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New Delhi News letter

Arvind Bhandari

Mrs Gandhi visits Canada

Mrs Indira Gandhi's recent triumphal tour of Canada has focussed attention on Indo-Canadian relations.

Though India and Canada share an identity of outlook on a number of major international issues their mutual relations have suffered from neglect in recent years. It was eight years ago that the late Prime Minister, Mr Lal Bahadur Shastri, visited Canada. It was as long as 1959 that the last Indian trade delegation went to Ottawa.

This must look strange behaviour on the part of what Canada regards as friend. Its aid programme began with India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. India has so far received one billion dollars in aid—one-half of Canada's bilateral economic assistance.

What is more, this assistance has been given without strings. As Mrs Gandhi remarked in her speech to the joint House of Parliament, Canadian help has been concrete and imaginative and without expectation of political advantage. Unlike some other donors of aid, Canada has given not even an inkling of a desire to interfere with India's domestic affairs or influence its foreign policy.

As a member of the Aid-India Consoritum, Canada has always displayed a desire to help. When the World Bank proposed a rescheduling of debts, Canada, unlike some other nations, showed not the slightest reluctance to comply. It gave India foodgrains on favourable terms and last year it made a free gift of grain. It has again promised to help India tide over its food shortages. It will also provide badly-needed edible oils and fertilizers.

The Speaker of Canadian Senate, Mrs Muriel Fergusson, presenting Souvenir Medallion to the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, in Ottawa on June 19, 1973. Mr Lucien Lamoureaux, Speaker of the House of Commons of Canada, is also seen in the picture.

This is one of the concrete results of Mrs Gandhi's visit. Another is the agreement to explore the possibility of expanding trade and economic co-operation between the two countries.

Indo-Canadian trade has sadly been affected by past neglect. Canada's imports form India represent less than one per cent of its total. Its exports to India are three times in value. But, in Canadian eyes, they are far less than our purchases from other advanced countries. The goods imported by India from Canada are under the aid programme to a major extent and consist of foodgrains, paper and pulp, sulphur and machinery.

Unless immediate steps are taken, bilateral trade will suffer further when Canada introduces the generalised scheme of preference (GSP) next year. Under the scheme, Canada is obliged to grant tariff concessions to all developing countries. This means that Latin American countries will have favourable access to the Canadian market for the first time. Indian exports to Canada will then face stiffer competition.

On the other hand, the terms offered under the GSP are more favourable than those under the Commonwealth preference scheme; and, India can, if it shows initiative and imagination, take advantage of them.

The decision of the Prime Ministers of India and Canada to initiate "a review and renewal" of bilateral relations in economic, cultural, scientific, technical and commercial exchanges is, therefore, significant. Senior officials of the two governments will meet in November for detailed discussions. On the agenda will be the possibility of joint economic ventures.

Already some ties have been established in economic co-operation. Canadian firms have entered into collaboration agreements with Indian companies in aluminium, shoes, tractors and farm equipment and zinc. An Indian hardboard firm has set up a subsidiary in Canada. Some other firms are negotiating with the Canadian government to

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establish similar joint ventures.

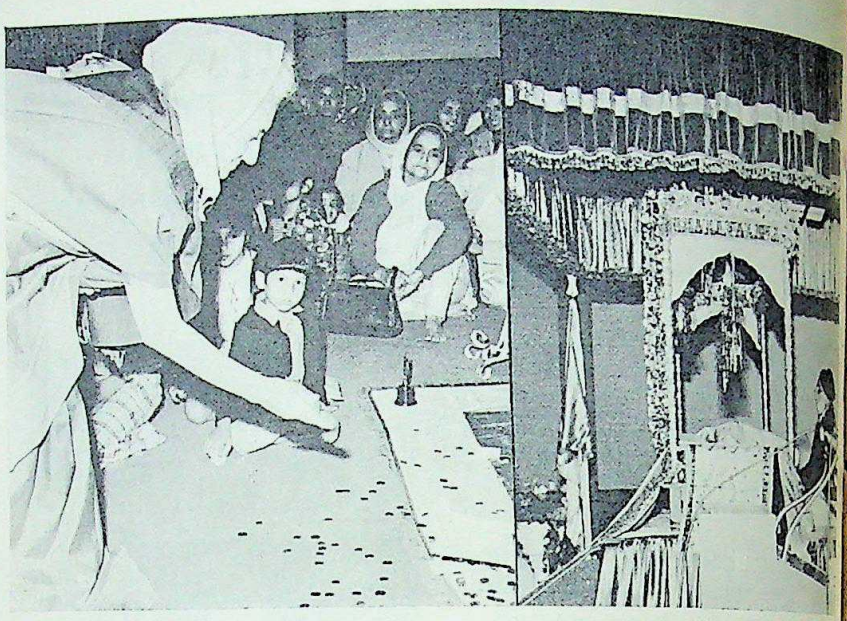
The official-level talks can give a further fillip to these negotiations and open the possibility of collaboration in both the public and private sectors. Mrs Gandhi, in her conversation with Canadian businessmen in Vancouver, indicated the fields (fertilizers, paper and pulp, oil exploration, telecommunications and canning industry) in which India is keen on securing Canadian help.

No one should, however, jump to the conclusion that hordes of Canadian businessmen will soon pour into India. The future of joint ventures and Canadian investment depends on the climate prevailing in India and the facilities available. Some businessmen reminded Mrs Gandhi of bureaucratic delays, red tape, official bungling and complicated licensing and other procedures in India. Unless favourable conditions are created for them, Canadians will rather go to the USA next door. Indian procedures need to be streamlined and Indian missions in Canada, including the trade mission in Vancouver, need to be made more efficient and responsive.

In the political field, a distinct gain from Mrs Gandhi's visit is the expression of appreciation by the Canadian Prime Minister of India's efforts to break the present impasse over the Pakistan prisoners of war issue. Mrs Gandhi was obviously persuasive in her explanation of the recent developments in the sub-continent and was able to remove the misunderstandings created by Pakistani propaganda, of which the demonstrations against her were a part.

Mr Trudeau's appreciation of India's initiative shows that Pakistan has failed to convince Ottawa of the charge that India is violating the Geneva Convention by holding the POWs in detention.

Mrs Gandhi and Mr Trudeau, after the second phase of the dialogue between them initiated by the Canadian Prime Minister's visit to New Delhi two years ago, obviously understand each other's points of view better.



The Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, went to see a newly constructed Gurudwara in Vancouver during her recent State visit to Canada.

Join-up photo shows Shrimati Gandhi making cash offering before Guru Granth Sahib.

This has been helped by the fact that some of the misunderstandings, such as their attitudes to the defunct International Control Commission in Indochina, are a thing of the past. The fresh row over co-operation in the field of atomic energy may similarly fail to embitter relations between them.

The President of Canada's Atomic Energy Commission has gone on record that a decade of useful co-operation in this field between the two countries may come to an end. The reason is that regulations under the non-proliferation treaty impose certain limitations on Canadian co-operation in future. But the fact that the controversy has aroused little passion in Ottawa inspires the confidence that the Canadian government will not take any hasty steps in the matter. Ottawa understands India's objections to the NPT: that it is favourable to those who possess nuclear power.

Mr Trudeau would very much like Mrs Gandhi to attend the Commonwealth Prime Ministers conference in August, now th he is playing host to it for the firs time. She has, however, ex plained that August wil be a bus month for her as Parliament wi be in session.

In international sphere, M Gandhi's visit will strengthen th co-operation between India an Canada further. Neither co try shares the big powers' am tion of dominating the wor Neither has economic empires protect and ideologies to h campaigned against colonial and racial discrimination. Th played a key role in defusing extremely dangerous situation Korea. Both have particip in international peace-keep missions.

Though Canada is a mem of NATO, it has taken a m tolerant attitude towards the c cept of non-alignment than s other western powers. Simi it has not allowed emotion to high over the Indo-Soviet tr

India, on its part, has gre appreciated Canada's role world affairs. Even Cana restrictive immigration polic elicited little criticism in

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Delhi. For India knows that the policy, though selective, is not racist. Canada has taken 60,000 people of Indian origin and recently voluntered to admit Uganda Asians who were forced to flee the country by President Amin. What is more remarkable, all these Uganda Asians have been usefully absorbed.

It is natural for immigrants to retain emotional links with India. But Mrs Gandhi did not encourage dual loyalty. The attitude of Indian immigrants in Vancouver must have pleased her immensely. The president of the East India Association, which arranged a function in her honour, proudly described himself as an Indo-Canadian.

With the exception of small groups of Indian Maoists, the attitude of the community was friendly towards the Prime Minister.

If the aim of the Maoists, the Pakistanis and other demonstrators was to steal the limelight, it was fulfilled to a large extent. Some Canadian newspapers tended to highlight the anti-Indian demonstrations and one of them printed all the nonsense, including references to "genocide in Uttar Pradesh", mentioned by a Pakistani woman.

Some of the blame for the failure of the Canadian mass media to grasp the true significance of developmens in the sub-continent must lie with Indian officials. Their briefings tended to be unsatisfactory. Even the Prime Minister, with the exception of her Press conference in Vancouver, tended to explain things in a way that must have seemed enigmatic to journalists not initiated in the affairs of the sub-continent.

However, Mrs Gandhi's personality and her grace and charm did make a tremendous impression on the people and earned her from the chairman at a joint lunch hosted by the Empire Club of Canada and the Canadian Club of Toronto the title of "beautiful dynamic, dedicated and devoted leader of India".

Prime Minister arrives back in New Delhi

On completion of her 12-day State visit to Yugoslavia and Canada, the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, arrived back in New Delhi on June 27, 1973.

On arrival at the Delhi airport, she was warmly received by the Central Ministers, Diplomats, high officials and others.

Six-year-old Dora returned unusually early from school one day. She rang the doorbell. There was no answer. She rang again a little longer. Still there was no answer. The third time she pressed the button long and hard. Nobody came to the door. Then she pressed her nose against the windowpane and in a shrill voice, which caught the ears of every neighbour, called "Its' all right mama, I'm not the installment man."

* * *

A small boy playing at the end of the pier fell into the sea and was rescued only after great difficulty by an intrepid swimmer who dived off the end of the pier and succeeded in getting the boy into a rowboat. Half an hour later, much exhausted by his effort, the rescuer was walking off the pier when a man came and tapped him on the shoulder.

"Are you the man who saved my son's life?" he asked.

"Yes" answered the much exhausted hero.

"Then" said the father indignantly, "where's his cap?"

* * *

Although Winston Churchill was very popular he had numerous enemies. Once when he was addressing a public meeting, a woman interupted heatedly saying "If you were my husband, I would poison you."

Churchill replied impertubably "Madam you wouldn't have to bother. If you were my wife, I'd take poison myself."

* * *

The managing director of a company needed a secretary. Interviewing the pretty, young applicant he asked "Have you had any experience of the job?" "Yes" the girl replied enthusiastically. "I used to work for a private firm. I did all kinds of jobs for the boss. In fact, the work I did for him even his wife could not do."

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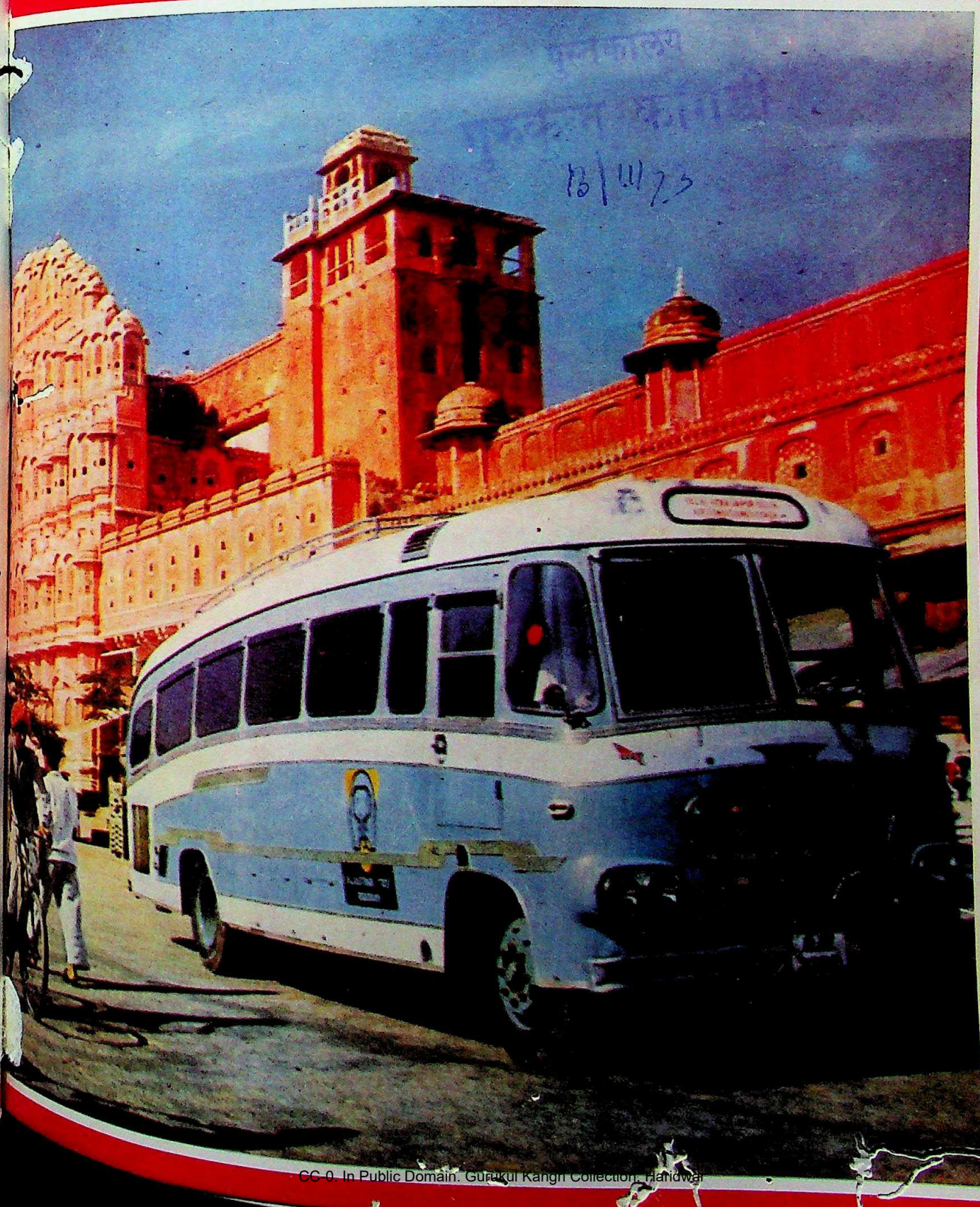
Vol. IV No. 3 September, 1973



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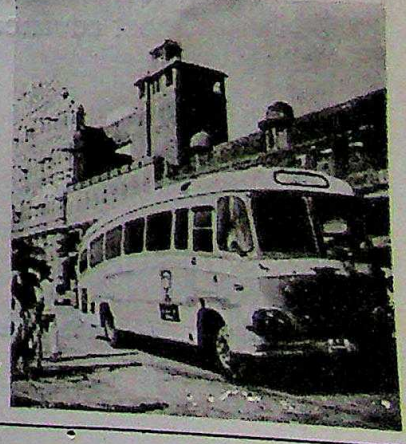

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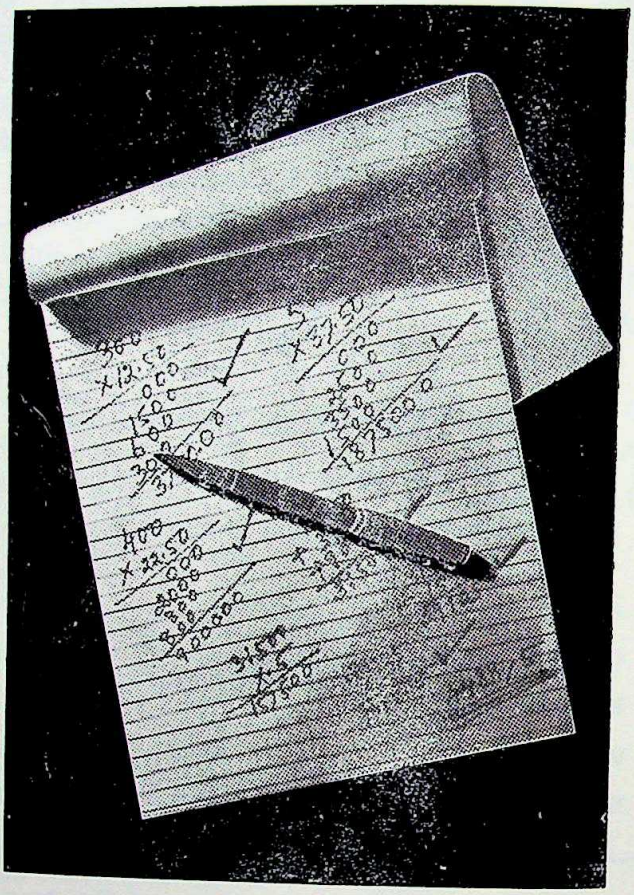

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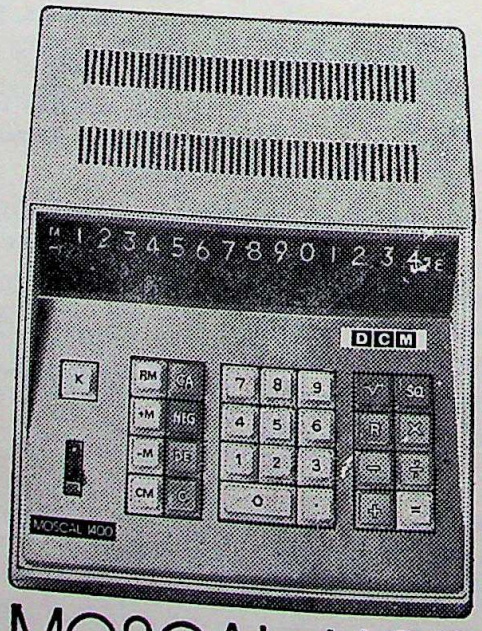

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Samaiki

G. Sital

INDIANS IN INDONESIA

During a short trip to Djakarta this month, I met a large number of Indians from all walks of life residing in that beautiful and busy town. Some came for consultations, others came to seek my advice on various community affaris, but many came to say Hello & Thank you for the good work that the INDIAN magazine is doing. Every one was very hospitable and full of love. At the risk of betraying emotion, I must confess the feeling uppermost in my mind. We, Overseas Indians, may be living scattered in far off lands; we may seldom meet; but at heart we have a feeling of oneness arising from our common cultural heritage and social traditions—heritage that is thousands of years old, sustains us, and keep us bound with the cord of love and affection for one another.

The Indian community in Djakarta has many remarkable achievements to its credit. There is an Indian school, a temple and a gurudwara in the town. Recently it has acquired a well equipped building which has a hall to hold 800 to 1000 persons, several guest rooms and other modern facilities. The energetic committee is building a new complex having a swimming pool, library, reading rooms and recreation centres for teenagers and others. When completed, the complex will be a monument to hard work and community spirit of Indians in Indonesia.

My friends in Indonesia! We send you our thanks and deep appreciation of your work. Keep building services for your families and your children. Does it matter who builds them so long as they get built. Stand together; work together, keep good work going, GOD BE WITH YOU.

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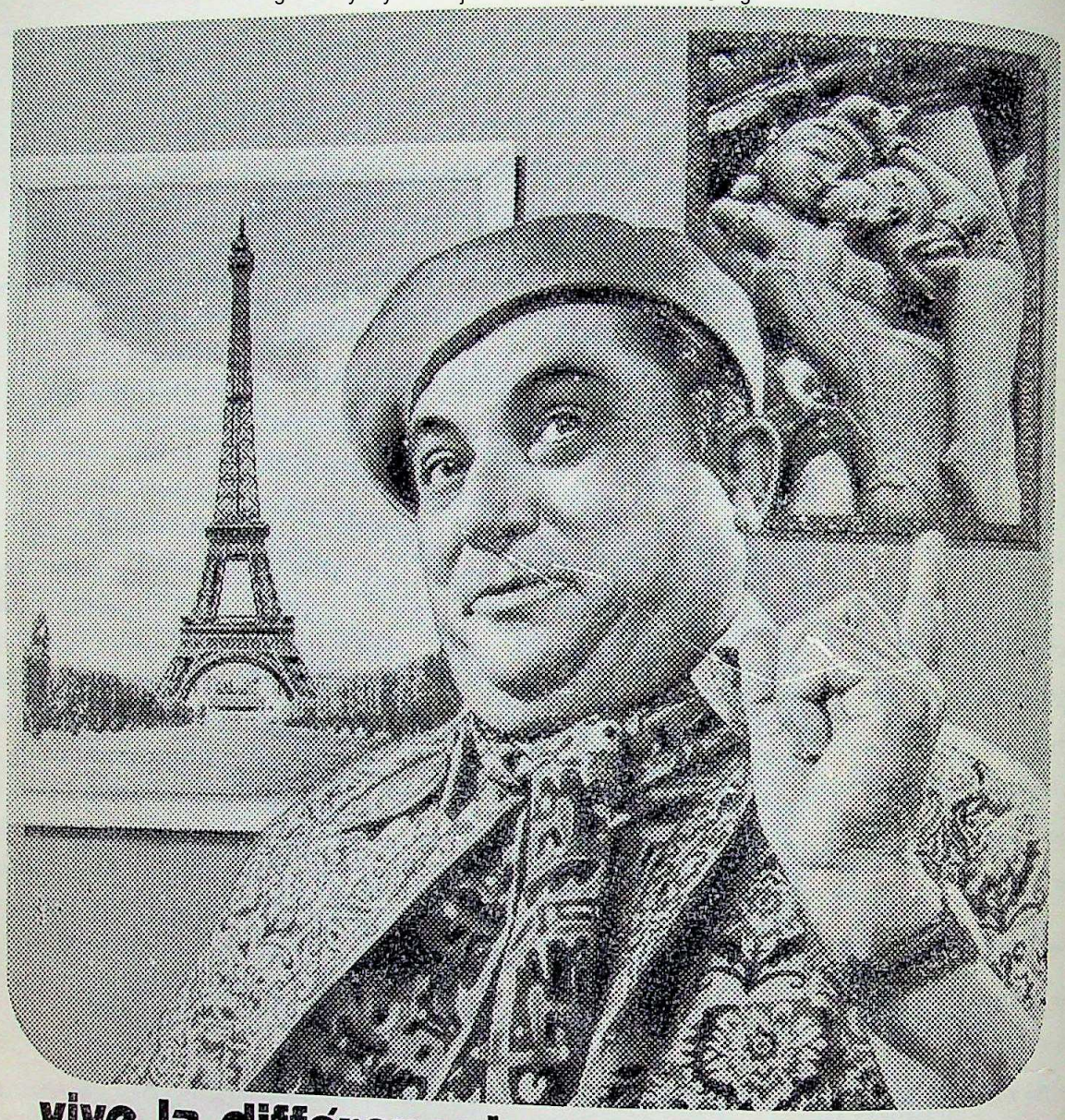

vive la différence!

During a spirited discussion in Paris over the equality of rights for women, a supporter of the women's rights was provoked to ask: What is the difference between a man and a woman? Promptly a Frenchman burst out: **"Vive la Différence"!**

We, in Bank of India, also join the Frenchman in saying, "Vive la Différence!" But what we refer to is the difference between a bank and a bank—difference in recruitment and training of staff; difference in attitude towards the customers; therefore, difference in efficiency and courtesy.

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Viewpoint

K. N. Vaid

GOLD AND VOLVO

Hockey & tennis tournaments

The World Hockey Cup matches played at Amsterdam evoked a great deal of excitment amongst Indians all around the globe. The Indian mood was perhaps best depicted by Air India. On the eve of the Indian team's departure, Air India put up hoardings in Bombay and Delhi showing the Maharajah saying, *"I give you the world: You bring me the Cup"*. A few weeks later new hoardings were displayed and the Maharajah said, *"Not everyone can afford gold: silver will do."*

Indian team performed much better this time than at the Munich Olympics. They beat Pakistan and drew with Holland, the latter won due to chance hits of penalty corners given to resolve the tie. On the whole, Indian stick work, passes and coordination was superior to those of Pakistanis, Germans and the Dutch. If they lacked in anything, it were stamina and leadership on the field. Given the chance to practice continuously, India should do well at the next olympics.

A large number of Indians from all over Europe and even America travelled to Holland to back up their team. Cries of Sat Sri Akal and India India were kept up all through the matches, so were the usual Indian habit of playing trumpets, drums and counches. After winning against Pakistan, the usual Bhangra was performed with gusto; Maharajah of Patiala who is the Indian Ambassador at the Hague was taken around on shoulders.

On their part, the Dutch crowd was equally boisterous, even hostile. They shouted at and abused Indian players sang Dutch national anthem all the time and in general did everything it could to demoralize Indian players. During its last unruly Indian crowd; the Dutch crowd put Indian trumpteers to shame.

A little up in the North in Sweden, 19 year old Indian Tennis player Amritaraj scored convincing victories over seeded American and Australian players of international fame. His contribution to Indian sports went somewhat unnoticed due to hockey noise. But his performance was superb. The lad has come up very well and according to Krishnan, has very good times ahead.

Incidently, Amritaraj won a Volvo car as fringe benefit of his victory. The poor boy has to pay heavy duty for importing the car to India and is in a fix. He won a large cash prize in Hong Kong early this year when he played there. The money was more than sufficient to pay for duty. But that time he did not know about the Volvo and probably appropriate the funds elsewhere.

Our congratulations to Amritaraj and the Indian hockey team. Good huntings friends.

LADOO

Romance of a tradition

Ladoo is a common Indian sweet—small round balls. But it is a sweet with the largest folklore attached to it. A married couple remember with nostalgia the day when they first fed each other with ladoos—and making life long ties; the young wait for the day when they may be able to do so. You go to a temple and take ladoos for the gods. Win a lottery, pass an examination, comes a long last friend or near one, out come the ladoos and get passed around in mouthfulls. Ladoos are also distributed to mark the death of a person who lived a long life to see his/her grand children.

A couplet in a Punjabi folk song mentions a lover confiding in his friend that his beloved went to shops asking for price of ladoos. A Sindhi folk song tells about a belle who winks on passing by youngmen and enquires about the price of ladoos when passes by shops. The youngmen conclude that she is ready to be loved.

In north Indian villages, weight of ladoos distributed by a person is taken as a measure of his wealth and status. The Zamindar's ladoos would weigh half a seer each and those of a commoner 24 in a seer.

Like everything else in India, ladoos have also been politicalized. When India and Pakistan reached an agreement at Delhi recently, the information

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got first leaked out when pressmen saw plates of ladoos covered with red napkins were being taken inside the conference room. Recently, a minister has been named for monopolizing contracts worth billions of rupees in the names of his two brothers who have been nicknamed by local people as Ladoo Babu and Jalebi Babu.

Ladoos were equally popular with Overseas Indians all over the world though they are being replaced by that ghastly western concoction called cakes. It is not merely substituting one sweet by another, it is killing a tradition with all the cultural impact behind it—the subtle romance, the delicate expression. Mention of a ladoo would bring shivers to a young belle and make her face red. Oh what joy. Can a piece of cake ever bring that transformation or would cake Babu convey the full impact of the expression Ladoo Babu!

TRADE

Four foreign VIPs

Four important ministerial visits to India took place in August. The Turkish foreign minister Umit Haluk Bayuken, Princess Ashraf Pahalavi of Iran, the Canadian defence minister Mr James Richardson, and a Sudanese delegation were in India.

Turkey and Iran are military allies of Pakistan and their relations with India have been formal though not cool in recent years. Turkey had imposed a ban on the import or reading of Gita in the country which has now been lift. As a result of these visits, Turkey and India have arranged to exchange visits of delegations at various levels to finalize details of agreements on air services and news agencies. Princess Ashraf is a twin sister of the Shah and a prominent person in her own right. What she did in Delhi is not known, but the visit was a step forward toward friendship between Iran and India. Canadian minister Richardson's visit did result in specific conclusions. India and Canada will not be able to work together in defence research and production of defence equipment. India offered to make some equipment for Canada, and the latter offered to sell some other. Neither party agreed to let competitive market be the deciding factor.

The Sudanese delegation did hard bargaining in New Delhi. As a result, an agreement has been drawn up, India will help Sudan to set factories for textiles, cement, and sugar production and food processing. India will also help Sudan to put up an Industrial Estate.

INDIRA DEVTA

It poured through roof tops

After 3 years of draught, India had rains this year—and what rains! Jaisalmer and Barmer districts of Rajasthan had rains in 24 hours which was more than to total rainfall in last 100 years. The desert has been flooded. Ahmadabad was flooded and for the first time in its history, water entered the Raj Bhavan and the Governor had to be evacuated. Parts of Madhya Pradesh have been flood twice during August. All 6 rivers of Maharashtra are in spate. Punjab—the land of 5 rivers was also under floods. The Ganges and Jamuna are on the rise threatening vast areas and multitudes of towns on their banks. Brahmputra is in floods as usual. The Indus river has played havoc in Pakistan creating large scale destruction. The rainfall in India and Pakistan has been from normal to heavy this year. The Indian saying has come true. "When He gives, He gives through roof tops, and gives room fulls." Floods have created large scale devastation. But the Indian farmer, in his usual philosophical manner has accepted the will of God, and is looking at the plus side of the happening. Floods deposit silt on land and make it more fertile. This is there will be heavy sowing, less water requirement, easy work and bumper crop. That is, if there are no epidemics, no pest infection of grain, no war and somehow rise months are bridged over somehow. India has withdrawn its foreign purchase of wheat, it would have been foolish not to do so considering the price of wheat abroad. Rains have brought back the confidence of people and they are rolling up their sleeves to get down to work—once again after 3 years.

TIT FOR TAT: A businessman in Chicago had occasion to write to a Japanese friend in Tokyo. Mindful of the Oriental's appreciation of flowery language and of his own duty to the cause of good public relations, he ended his letter with the wish: "May heaven preserve you always."

To the delight of the businessman's office staff, the Japanese responded with: "May heaven pickle you too."

* * *

SHORTAGES: The judge was furious and disgusted. "Don't you have any shame or self-respect, man? This is the third time you have broken into the same house! What have you to say to that, you scoundrel?"

The burglar looked crushed. "Your Honour, what can I say except" — he swallowed hard — "that the housing shortage is something awful"

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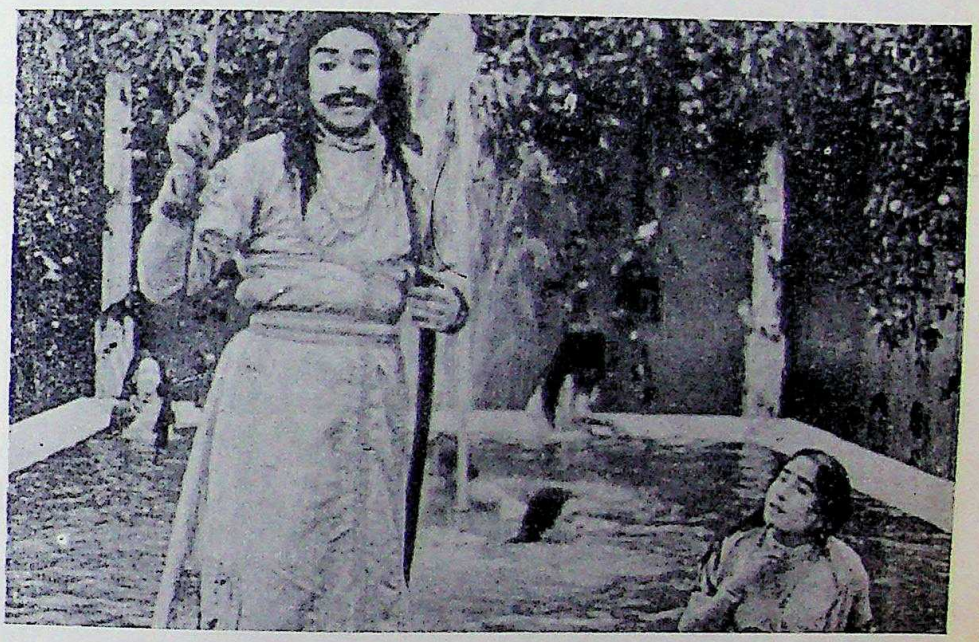
Set up a decade ago with the avowed objective of film preservation, research and diffusion of film culture, the National Film Archive of India, Poona has played a remarkable role in the procurement of film classics and preserving them for posterity. To a student of Indian and world cinema and to film historians it serves as a sanctuary for film classics and centre of study in the rich heritage of the national and international cinema.

Works of Pioneers

The Institute has succeeded in securing the works of pioneers like Dada Saheb Phalke, Himansu Rai, P. C. Barua, Debaki Bose, V. Shantaram, Mehboob Khan, Sohrab Modi, S. S. Vasan, B. R. Reddy and others. It has also procured works of contemporary film makers like Satyajit Ray, Raj Kapoor, Mrinal Sen, Ritwik Ghatak and other noted directors. The most significant acquisition to its credit is the first Indian film, Raja Harishchandra, produced in 1913 by D. G. Phalke, Father of the Indian Cinema. The Archive has also procured Kaliya Mardan made by Phalke in 1919.

The Archive has also succeeded in acquiring a number of foreign classics under the Archival Exchange Programme. These include films of Griffith, Dreyer, Eisenstein, Pudovkin, Dovzhenko, Planherty, Buneul, Fellini, Mitzoguchi, Ozeu, Kurosawa, Bresson, Godard, Bergman



A still from Phalke's—"Raja Hairschandra" (1913)—the first Indian film preserved in the Archive.

Kissing was not taboo those days, as may be seen from this still from Karma (1932). Stg: Devika Rani and Himansu Rai.

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and Rossellini. An old film, Bicycle Thief of De Sica, forms part of the archival treasure.

Apart from films, the Archive has maintained ancilliary film material for the benefit of film scholars and historians so as to enable them to have a complete picture of the Indian Cinema. It has a stock of 3,824 film books, 138 magazines, 890 disc records, 6,022 stills from old films, 1,744 wall posters and 1,608 film song booklets.

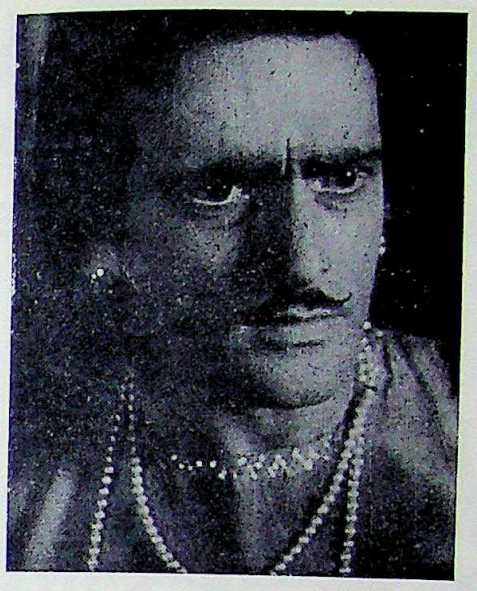
Research Work

The Archive has added another feather in its cap by bringing out Indian National Filmography containing a complete list of Indian films in the silent era, with casts, credits and other technical data. About 1,000 silent Indian films produced between 1913 to 1932 have been documented. Compilation work in respect of the second part of the filmography covering the talkie period is in progress.

The Archive has also published monographs on important films pioneers like D. G. Phalke, P. V. Pathi, Guru Dutt and Bimal Roy. Monographs on other pioneers like P. C. Barua and V. Shantaram are under preparation.

Equipped with an up to date library, the Archive has at present 50 films, both in 35 mm and 16 mm, which are available on loan to film societies, film study groups and student groups on nominal service charges for non-commercial exhibition and study. The Archive is also keen to promote the film societies movement with the ultimate objective of developing a taste for good films among the people.

Art films need an outlet. National film theatres are the need of the hour. It has been accepted in principle to set up national film theatres in important cities. The first theatre has come up at All India Radio, Bombay which is rendering useful service by exhibiting experimental and art



Prithviraj Kapoor in "Vidyapathi" (Hindi/1937).

K. L. Saigal in "Devdas" (Hindi/1935)

Devika Rani in "Jeewan Prabhat" (Hindi/1937). She won the first Dada Sahab Phalke Award for making the most significant contribution to Indian cinema.

Chandra Mohan in "Roti" (Hindi/1942).

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films and old classics. A festival of silent Indian films had been organised with the help of the Archive by the Government of Maharashtra, as part of the Phalke Centenary. The Archive films are being used for academic purposes at the Film and Television Institute of India.

Partners in the Project

A number of landmarks of Indian cinema are still not available in the Archive's collections. These have to be located and procured. Old films are on inflamable nitrate base which need to be transferred to safety base for the sake of preservation. These treasures will perish if timely action is not taken by the film producers, distributers and film lovers and artists.

Some producers continue to destroy prints of old films after these had completed the commercial run. A number of old films are lying scattered at various places in the country awaiting detection and salvage. Why not deposit them with the Archive as thier "Custodian" to ensure preservation? Why not keep this valuable material for future reference and record? These matters should engage earnest attention of our film makers. The Archive is a part of the film industry and can never be treated as an extraneous body. Producers are partners in this project. Films and negatives need be donated by them to the Archive, as is done in foreign countries.

Audience Taste

The Archive cannot be a mere repository of films like any other museum or library, but has to function as a centre of fundamental research. Film scholarship is almost lacking in the country. The standard of our films has to be raised and this can be done only if the filmgoers are helped to cultivate a taste for good films. Constant exposure to high-class films is an essential pre-condition for developing audience taste and film sense.

Uday Shankar in "Kalpana" (Hindi/1948).

Nargis and Raj Kapoor in "Awara" (Hindi/1951).

Balraj Sahni in "Do Bigha Zamin" (Hindi/1953).

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MAKHAN SINGH

A Kenyan Sikh who fought for freedom of Kenya, one of the founding fathers of trade unionism in East Africa died recently.

THE SON of a printer, Makhan Singh, has left his imprint on Kenya's history.

As a freedom fighter who sacrificed eleven of the best years of life in jail for his convictions, as a trade unionists who organised African workers to stand up for their rights and as a writer who meticulously recorded the begining of trade unionism in Kenya, Makhan Singh has made his mark for future generations.

Makhan Singh was born in December 1914. His father, Sudh Singh, ran a small press called Punjab Printing Press in Nairobi. After school, Makhan Singh, joined his father at the age of seventeen. He was destined to make his impression not in the family business but in the oppressed nation's fight for freedom.

Low wages, long hours of work and exploitation of African and Indian workers made a profound impression on the young Makhan Singh's mind. While still a teenager, he formed the Labour Trade Union of Kenya in 1933 and became its general secretary.

The Nairobi based union had some 3,000 Indian and 1,000 African and two European members. The Union proved to be a success and soon established branches all over Kenya and Uganda.

The third annual conference of the Union then known as the Labour Trade Union of East Africa in 1939 was attended by thousands of workers.

Makhan Singh with President Kenyatta in 1961.

It strongly protested against racial discrimination and expressed its solidarity with the peoples of India, China, Palestine and Abyssinia in their struggle for freedom and human rights.

Later, Makhan Singh organised a general strike in Mombasa to fight for better working conditions. He castigated the government in power for attacking the strikers with batons, driving lorries over the mass of strikers and making mass arrests.

The non-violent freedom war being waged in India caught young Makhan Singh's imagination and he sailed for the land of his forefathers. Within a few months, he was on the march with the Indian freedom fighters.

On 8 May, 1940, he was arrested at Ahmedabad under the Defence of India rules and spent five long years in detention without a trial. He was released just before India attained independence and he immediately sailed back to Kenya, for he was a lost man without a cause to fight for.

Back in Kenya, he plunged himself into trade union work with full gusto and helped to form East African Trade Union Congress. This was the central organisation of workers with Fred Kubai as the president and Makhan Singh as the general secretary.

At this time in the late forties, the struggle against the white settlers' 'Kenya Plan' was gathering force and a meeting was called jointly by the Kenya African Union (Kau) and East African

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Indian National Congress to pass a resolution demanding "complete independence for East African territories at an early date".

The resolution was moved by Makhan Singh and seconded by Fred Kubai. Speaking at the meeting, President Mzee Jomo Kenyatta, said "We have today passed a resolution demanding complete independence.

There is nobody who wants to remain a slave .... Europeans would never say that we are fit to govern ourselves. The reasons they say that the time has not come is because they want time themselves to unite the East African territories with the Rhodesia...."

Soon after this meeting, the colonial government arrested Makhan Singh and Fred Kubai. The workers in Nairobi went on a general strike demanding the release of their two leaders.

Fred Kubai was fined only to be re-arrested on other charges. Makhan Singh was deported to the hot, semi-desert of Northern Kenya. For eleven long years, from 1950 to 1961, Makhan Singh sweated it out in the heat of the arid area.

To sustain him, he only had his faith in what he believed to be right of compromising with his ideals was dangled in front of his eyes. But he refused to bite.

The prime of his life, from the age of 36 to 47, was spent in detention, away from his family and friends. Back home, his family was looked after by his father, but his wife and children always missed his affection and love.

During these years, he came to know of the freedom struggle being waged in Kenya, the emergence of President Kenyatta as the paramount leader of the people's struggle against the colonists, the freedom fight dubbed 'Mau' by the imperialists and the detention of President Kenyatta in the same area.

He was released with President Kenyatta in 1961—barely two years before Uhuru (Freedom) dawned upon the land.

Makhan Singh did not seek high office or grandoise honours after his release. He spent the next decade writing the history of trade unionism in Kenya.

His book, "A History of Kenya's Trade Union Movement to 1952" reveals a great deal about the modesty of the author .... There is not a trace of self-consciousness that he himself played a leading role in making those events happen. The book is objective to the point of self-effacement. Makhan Singh refers to himself in the third person and there is no attempt to highlight his own contribution.

No attempt is made to single out the contribution of one race or tribe. The conflict is stated simply in terms of the oppressed and oppressors, the subjects against the colonisers and these categories are specifically demonstrated to be inclusive of people of origins.

The objectivity which runs through Makhan Singh's writing was a personal quality apparent to all who knew him. He reprimanded anyone who referred to other groups or races in derogoatory terms. Whatever his arguments for expediency, he remained rock-firm in his beliefs. According to the members of his family, he never even once showed any signs of bitterness or resentment for what he had been through.

He was polite but never intimate with anyone. All his life he maintained an exterior of total control with a high wall around his inner feelings. He revealed his private feelings and innermost thoughts even to the members of his close-knit family.

Perhaps here was a man animated by an inner dynamo of action of such strength that he did not need counsel or comfort from friends. Except for a few personal possessions, all his life the man owned nothing at all—no business, no car, no property.

Repeatedly he was branded a Communist by the colonialists. But this was not the Communism of subversion or toeing the party line but a pristine communism such as the one preached by Guru Nanak or Jesus Christ.—**Kul Bhushan & Rasik Shah.**

A fat man who wanted to commute hailed a cycle riksha and asked "I like to go to Club Road" came the answer, "In how many instalments do I take you."

The fatso was not discouraged and repeated the question to second rikshawala and got the answer, "I will charge you at the rate of 25 paise for kilogramme". Eventually, third rikshawala agreed to carry the fatso. A hand cart came rushing by and dashed into the riksha.

Rikshawala, "why did you dash into my vehicle?"

Cart man, "Why did you carry load that rightfully should be carried in my cart."

* * *

A little girl who always sucked her thumb was told by mother that her tummy will come out. One day while mother and child were taking a walk, they met a pregnant woman.

Oh, shot out the girl, "I know why her tummy is bulging out."

* * *

Guest: Why does your dog stare at me whenever I sit down to eat.

Host : Oh no, the dog stares only at his plate.

* * *

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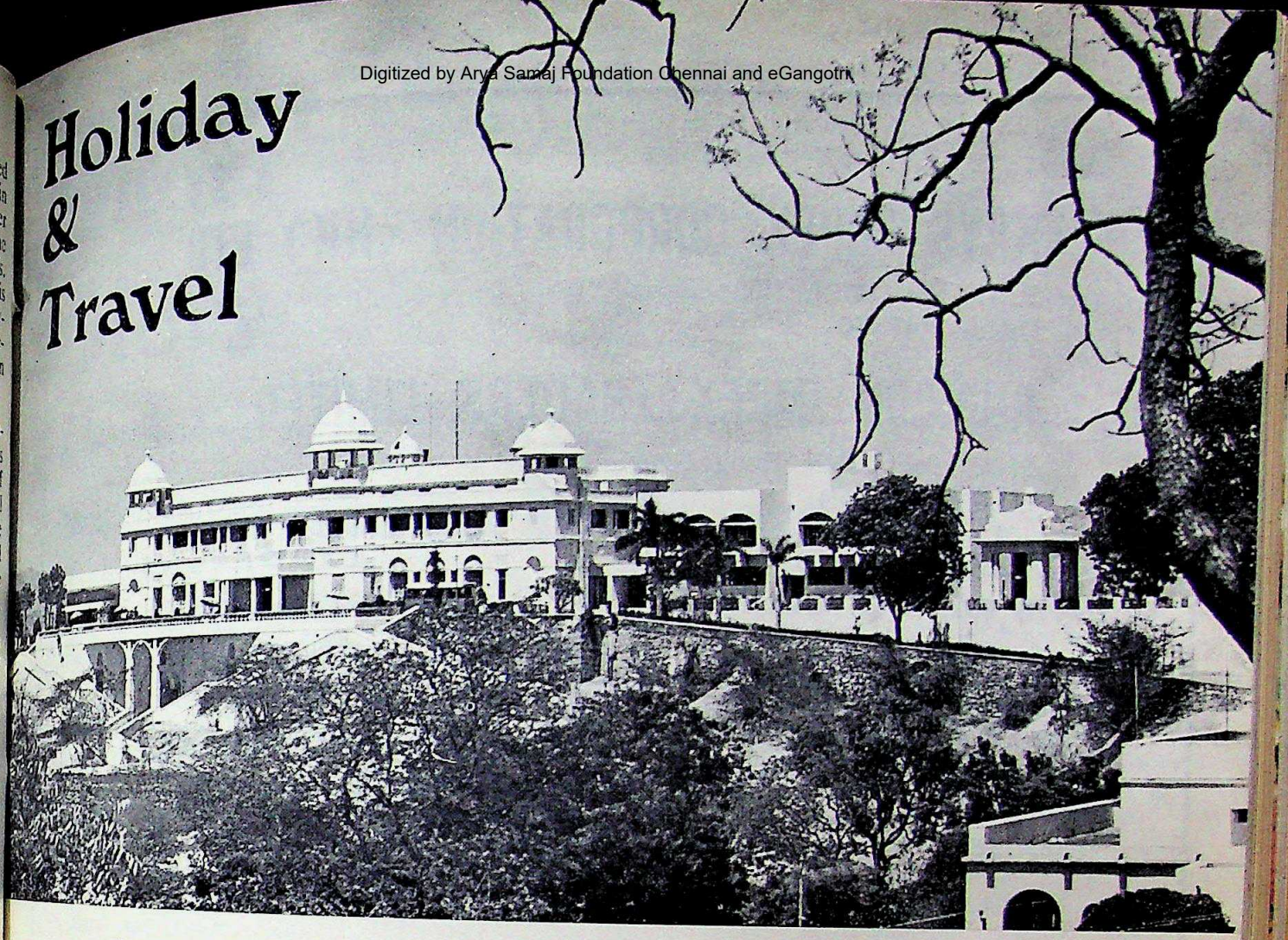
Holiday & Travel



Laxmi Vilas Palace Hotel, Udaipur. Recently renovated and expanded the hotel has 34 suites, and air conditioned rooms, a restaurant, a bar, conference facilities. It commands a beautiful view, overlooking the Fatehsagar lake.

Udaipur - a fairytale city

Regal Udaipur. City of lakes in a striking dessert setting. Elegant palaces rich with mosaic and inlay. And a history of Rajput chivalry going back hundreds of years.

It is here that India Tourism development Corporation's Land Vilas Palace Hotel is now ready for occupancy after extensive renovation and expansion. On a hill overlooking Fatehsagar Lake and commanding a magnificent panoramic view, this luxurious hotel provides Udaipur with fine tourist accommodation at reasonable rates.

Built in 1929 by Maharana Bhupal Singh as a royal guest house, the hotel now offers 34 double rooms and suites. Each of its elegant rooms is air-conditioned, with attached bath, shower, running hot and cold water and telephone. The luxurious suites are furnished with rich carpets, rare paintings and object d'art The decor reflects the richness and colour of Rajasthan.

An air-conditioned restaurant serves Indian, Rajasthani and Continental food. The Cocktail Bar is a popular rendezvous. A major new addition is the conference room which seats 100, placing Udaipur on the map as an ideal conference centre. The conference room can be converted for parties and receptions.

Other facilities at the Laxmi Vilas Palace Hotel include a shopping plaza, garages and parking space. ITDC's Car Rental service offers tours of Udaipur and excursions to places of historical interest including Udai Sagar, Chittorgarh and the Dilwara Jain temples.

Udaipur is 90 minutes flying time from Bombay and is on the Bombay-Delhi trunk route. It is a historic place-being the seat of Mewar Rajputs. Chittorgarh of Maharana Partap is within 1 hour driving time. Twelveth century Jain temples made in white marble are at an hour's driving distance. The city has several palaces, beautiful lakes and it presents the Rajput glory at its best.

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Short Story

A wonderful man . . .

by

Rukmini Parthasarathi

Just an inland letter. Merely a light folded sheet of paper.

But crushed by the news it conveyed, Kamala walked again and again to the gate, scanning the road for the arrival of her husband Balaraman.

What would he say when he read the letter? How could a man of his uprightness and honesty digest this bit of news? Krishnan would definitely go down in his father's estimate now . . . .

Her mind raced back to the letter that had come yesterday—from their elder son Hari. A letter of absolute detachment. "I wish to renounce the world and take 'sanyasa.' Please give your consent and blessings . . . ."

That letter had left Balaraman mute with shock. She had wished he would speak and share his emotions with her. But . . . . he just sat still, as if turned to stone . . . .

And yet, when he spoke again, his voice had been clear and without the slightest tremor. "If that is the path he has chosen for himself, I give my blessings with a clean mind . . . ."

She had watched him as he sat down to write this son; and her heart had whispered as it had whispered so often in the past: "What a wonderful man!

This letter, from their younger son Krishnan, was different . . . . very different . . . .

Someone was coming down the road. Kamala's eyes lit up eagerly, then narrowed in disappointment. No . . . . not her husband . . . .

But the man who came had a message for her. "Aunty-Uncle met me on the way. He wanted me to tell you he would be home somewhat later than usual . . . ."

"Anything wrong?"

"He came across a young man who had collapsed on the road and has taken him to the hospital. He wanted me to inform you, so that you might not worry about the delay."

"Thank you!" she said. "That was really very considerate of him," she thought, and her entire being filled with the mellow glow of joy.

Some stranger collapses on the road and this seventy-year-old man rushed him to the hospital in this afternoon summer heat! Surely, compassion and kindness make a man young.

She came in. The letter from Krishnan lay open on the table where she had dropped it, like a hot brick, after reading it.

"He won't forgive you!" she said, as though Krishnan were standing in front of her. "If he does, it will be a miracle!"

Somehow, she felt better now. She let her mind race back into the realms of the past. The sweetness of her reminiscences were soothing, like a lullaby to a sleepy child.

Forty-five years ago . . . .

Balaraman was a well-built self-confident young man of twenty five. She was a skinny nervous girl of twelve. They were to be married in just a week's time.

It was his mother who first suspected that the bride-to-be's skinny appearance wasn't entirely due to her tender age and narrow bone formation. A medical check-up proved her right. Kamala suffered from tuberculosis!

"It's a good thing we found out before the wedding was solemnised. We'll stop the marriage. Imagine the nerve of the girl's party, trying to dump a sick girl on my son!"

Everyone agreed with her—with one exception.

"This is not fair!" Balaraman said. "Suppose the marriage had taken place. Wouldn't we have treated the girl? We'll do that now.

"The girl's party have spent a large sum of money on the wedding arrangements. They aren't affluent people. I would be cruel to stop the wedding now."

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"But this is ridiculous. Why should we concern ourselves with their monetary problems? The girl is not even good-looking. . ."

"That's beyond the point. She and I have been engaged according to religious rites. The wedding must take place on the due date . . . ."

The wedding did take place on the due date. Afterwards, Kamala stayed with her parents, undergoing treatment for her disease. But it was her husband who paid the bills.

This was the first seed of respect which fell in the tender impressionable soil of Kamala's heart.

In a social set-up reseeking with the atrocities of blatant double-standards between men and women, Balaraman's conduct was as unique as it was noble; and thus, Kamala started looking up to her husband not as someone whose wishes and orders had to be carried out implicity, but as a benefactor, a guide.

Time slipped by. She grew up into a healthy, comely young woman and started life with her husband. With every year she learned to love and respect him more. He was upright, honest, trustworthy.

What was more important to her, he was absolutely loving and considerate. Never did he mention to her the comparative poverty of her parents, or her ordinary looks as compared to his striking appearance.

Their first son was born when Kamala was nineteen. They named him Hari. When another baby boy came into their lives, they called him Krishnan.

The years rolled by tirelessly. The boys grew up; but there were no more children.

Kamala knew her husband longed for a daughter, but he never expressed his unfulfilled longing in words. Very carefully, he avoided even casual remarks like 'A little girl certainly adds beauty to a household!"

It needed no effort on his part to show her this consideration because all kind acts and words sprang forth spontaneously from his heart. He was not a wicked man who had to try to be good, but a good man whose goodness was as much a part of him as his life and limbs.

The seed of respect that fell into the heart of the twelve-year-old bride had now grown into a tree covered with fragrantly lovely blossoms . . . . and each blossom seemed to whisper: "What a wonderful man!"

When Hari reached manhood, Balaraman chose for him a good, quiet, pretty girl from a poor family. Sure enough, society wagged its tongue

"There must be something very wrong with the boy. Otherwise why should the wise old man choose for his son a poor girl with absolutely no dowry when he could have easily found a rich daughter-in-law bringing with her a five-figure bank account?"

Even Kamala was perturbed by these remarks. But Balaraman merely smiled. "Don't we know that there is nothing wrong with our boy? Why do you let the idle gossip of jealous people affect you?

"We are going to have a wonderful daughter in Hari's wife. Rejoice, Kamala, and thank God for His benevolence."

Some two years after the wedding Balaraman told his wife, "Krishnan is nicely settled in his job now. It's time I started looking for a second daughter . . . ."

"Sure!" she said. "Someone as good and loving as Hari's wife."

But Krishnan, working in Calcutta, didn't give his father the trouble — or pleasure? — of choosing a girl for him.

A telegram arrived one day: "I have married a Bengali girl. I'm bringing her with me for your blessings.

And Krishnan's wife became Balaraman's second daughter — as beloved and as welcome as the girl he had chosen for Hari.

"How can he accept her so easily, so completely?" thought Kamala. "She prefers a different type of food, speaks a different language. Even her eyes and nose are formed differently!"

But immediately she realised that, to Balaraman, the alien-looking Bengali girl was simply "our Krishnan's wife . . . . our daughter . . . ."

It took her six years to accept the presence of her Bengali daughter-in-law in the kitchen and puja room.

This period would have been longer if Balaraman's eyes hadn't seemed to laugh at her saying "She is also God's way of showing His mercy towards us!"

Life went by smoothly, happily. Hari had four children, Krishnan two.

Balaraman because their beloved "Thatha" — and in that single word they packed in an extent of love which somehow didn't fit into the word. "Patti" with which they used to address her . . . .

And then, an unexpected blow fell. The car in which Balaraman's six grand children and their mothers started out for a picnic met with an accident—a head-on collision with an overloaded truck.

Balaraman became an old man overnight. His happy, laughing eyes became two pits of sorrow. He didn't break down in tears like Kamala sobbing, "Hari, Krishnan, you have both been left alone, my children!"

He wept, not only for his sons but also for the two girls whom he had known to love as his own children, and for the six innocent tender lives so brutally snatched away by the cold hands of death.

Time went by. Hari and Krishnan were now posted in North Indian cities, away from their father. . . . .

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"What do we do now?" Kamala would ask her husband. "How do we help our children?"

He would reply; "They are adult human beings. There is nothing we can do to help them. They will have to decide for themselves what they want out of life ...."

Hari's decision was disclosed them in the letter that had arrived yesterday, his decision to renounce the world ....

And Krishnan had disclosed his decision in the letter that had just arrived.

She read the letter again ....

"Mother .... I find life so barren and meaningless .... I need a companion .... I have married a girl who works with me ...."

Balaraman was walking down the road towards home. He looked so frail, old .... She realised that he still hadn't got reconciled to the loss of his daughters and grandchildren.

How would he welcome a brand-new daughter-in-law?

"I was told you had taken someone to the hospital. What happened?" she asked.

"A case of starvation. A young man of about twenty-five who hadn't eaten for two whole days .... and would you believe it? He is a graduate!

"I gave him some money before coming away. He held my hands and said, Sir, can you get me a job? Some job? Any job? The suffering in his eyes will keep haunting me for a long, long time ...."

Abruptly, he stopped talking. "What's wrong Kamala? Any bad news?"

She gulped and said, "I got a letter from Krishnan".

He didn't ask her for the contents of the letter. He waited till

He waited till she gave the letter to him .... Putting on his reading glasses, he let his eyes wander down the lines.

she gave the letter to him. Putting on his reading glasses, he let his eyes wander down the lines.

The minutes ticked by ....

He remained silent ....

"Krishnan has married again ...." she said.

He nodded, but said nothing. He appeared to be thinking, sorting out his own thoughts, analysing his own feelings ....

The silence was maddening. "I didn't expect this," she said, and her voice was tear-laden. "How easy it has been to forget the Bengali girl he fell in love with!"

"Hari's decision was also unexpected."

"Yes. But that was .... at least, he didn't forget his wife and children just because they are dead ...."

"You mean, you approve of Hari's decision and not Krishnan's?"

"I don't know. But this seems so .... unfair, so unjust."

"Unfair? Unjust?" Balaraman repeated his old voice firm and clear.

"Who are we to judge anybody's actions? How are we qualified? The calamity that befell Hari and Krishnan was terrible.

"We cannot even imagine what its full impact on them would have been like. We have not suffered like them. What right have we to judge them?

"Hari and Krishnan went through the same ordeal — and each man has found a solution that was acceptable to him.

"Kamala, human nature can never be fully understood or explained. Let us at least have the humility to realise this ...."

What was he saying? Was he justifying Krishnan's actions?

If Krishnan hadn't been his child would he still have taken such a generous view?

She looked at his face. It wasn't thoughtful any more. It was calm and serene, like the vast ocean ....

When he spoke again, he was smiling. "Hari and Krishnan are no more our little children. They are adult human beings, with a capacity to feel and suffer. At this stage in their lives, and ours, we are merely their well-wishers, friends.

"Hari and Krishnan are equally dear to me. Hari is now an ascetic, Krishnan a house-holder, and they both have my blessings. Their decision is their own — it can't be any other way ...."

Gradually, Kamala found the mist in her heart clearing away. She found herself smiling too— a smile that was the reflection of Balaraman's smile.

She watched her husband sit down to write a letter of good wishes to Krishnan .... and her heart whispered softly: "What a wonderful man!"

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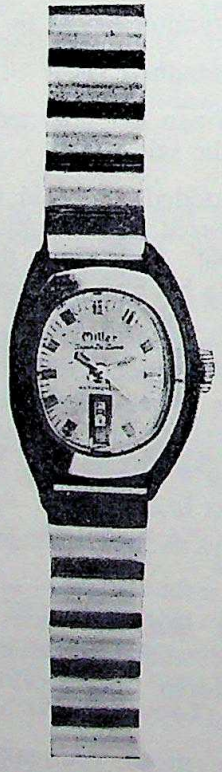

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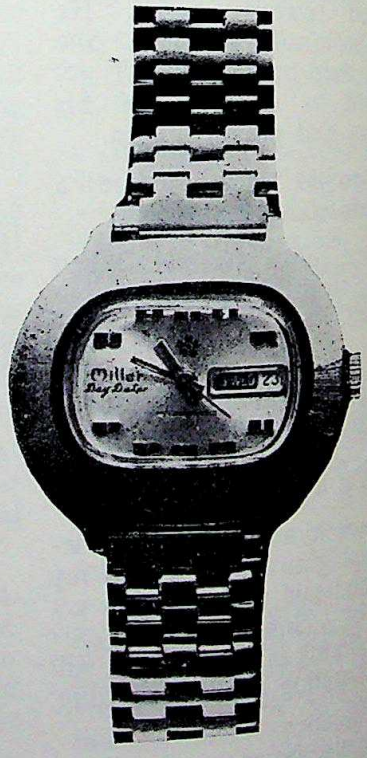

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Woman's Page

CHOOSE TOYS WITH CARE

Though primarily intended to please a child, toys have a functional value.

It is not unusual to hear parents complaining that their children do not play with toys. Nita's parents, for example, buy all sorts of expensive toys for her—from mechanical toys to elaborately dressed-up dolls. She does not 'play' with them, but bangs them on the floor or tears the dresses of the dolls. Her parents feel that she is an unusual child. They feel that perhaps she is born that way and nothing can be done about it. Modern child-psychologists, however, do not agree with this.

Toys are meant for a child's happiness. Children can however only play with them if they are of the right type. One-year-old Nita cannot be expected to operate mechanical toys or dress up her dolls. If she were given small baby boxes, or coloured beakers of different sizes, she is bound to enjoy them. Toys are meant not only for fun, but they are essential for the healthy development of mind and body. In the early stages a baby enjoys watching bright colours and moving objects. Around four to five months of age he learns to use his hands and starts grasping things within his reach. He also enjoys sucking and chewing. Gradually he learns how to use his hands, fingers, legs and eyes. Toys help him in co-ordinating the use of these various organs besides they help him to concentrate and order his social conduct.

But one must be careful about certain things regarding toys. The most important thing is to give the right toy at the right age. Expensive toys are not necessarily the right toys, in fact often simple and inexpensive toys have much more functional value than others. Toys that inspire children to do a little more than what they otherwise would, increase their level of intelligence. Indeed, toys should provide a little challenge accompanied by fun.

A child should never be given too many toys at a time. Instead of helping, it harms his development. He gets confused in the midst of too many toys and ultimately is not benefitted by any of them.

Enthusiastic parents make the mistake of presenting toys to a child and then assuming he knows exactly how the maker of that toy intended it to be used. If the child is left to himself to find it out or if he is allowed to use it the way he likes, the toy will not only give him greater pleasure but will also have a greater functional value.

Educational toys are normally looked down as 'boring' toys. Parents either hesitate to buy them or put them aside for 'serious study periods.' But if an educational toy is considered a bore by a child, it is sufficient indication that the toy is not the right toy for the child. In fact there is no need to distinguish between educational and non-educational toys: both are meant for fun and both have some functional value.

If proper care is taken in the first five years of a child's life, to buy the right toys, they can do much good. After all, it is an accepted fact today that the development of personality and intelligence depends more on the external factors than on the hereditary factors.—

Indira Hirway

Gurdwara expenses exceed income

The expenditure of the Delhi Sikh gurdwaras is more than their income, Rajya Sabha was informed.

According to a statement in the house, the income of these gurdwaras for the period January to June, 1973, was over Rs 36.19 lakhs, while the expenditure was over Rs 62.66 lakhs.

The highest expenditure was incurred by Gurdwara Sisganj and Gurdwara Nanak Piao on "PARSHAD," "LANGAR" (free kitchen) and "PATH".

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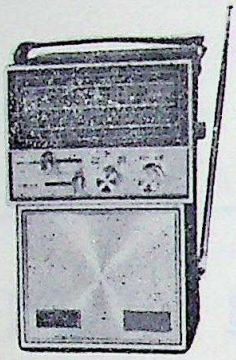

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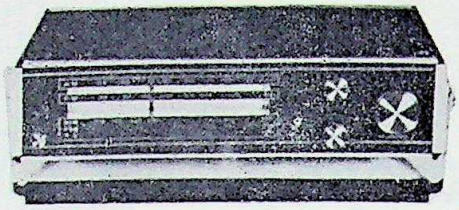

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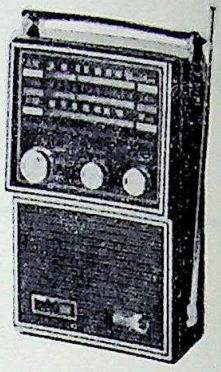

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Reader's Ask

Q. *Can an Indian national resident in India keep account in foreign banks?*

A. Yes, with permission of the Indian government. To-date, 1130 such accounts (total deposits Rs 630m.) have been permitted by the government. Actual number is anyone's guess.

Q. *Are there any islands other than Andamans that belong to India?*

A. Yes, a total of 1264 islands in Bay of Bengal and Arabian sea belong to India, of which 418 are uninhabited.

Q. *What does I.A.S. mean?*

A. I Am Sorry in practice, member of the Indian Administrative Service otherwise.

Q. *How many Indian students reside in the U.K. & the USSR?*

A. U.K. 1500, USSR 370.

Q. *Would you identify the lady whose pictures appeared in Yoga postures in Hong Kong papers?*

A. Have some decency, my dear!

Q. *Yours is perhaps the only magazine that said nothing about Maruti car.*

A. We don't talk about non-issues. If it comes up, Maruti will be the 4th car plant in India.

Q. *Who are you, anyway?*

A. You guess, 3 chances.

Q. *What status does India give to an Overseas Indian holding passport of another country?*

A. A person of Indian origin holding foreign passport can invest, trade and take employment in India like any non-resident Indian holding Indian passport. Should he wish to re-acquire Indian citizenship, procedure is much simpler as compared to a foreigner of non-Indian origin.

Q. *How do I plan one week's holiday-cum-pilgrimage trip to South India?*

A. Reach Madras and take a day's trip to temples around the city, including Mahabalipuram. This can be done by car. Leave Madras the following morning for Madurai by car. It is about 6 hours drive. Car can be hired easily for about Rs.200. On the way there are several temples but take long stopovers to see the world famous temple at Sriranga Patnum, and the temple and museum at Tanjore. At Madurai stay at the 4-star hotel PANDYAN. Spend the next day at Madurai and see the Meenakshi temple and town which is the centre of Tamil culture. On the 4th day morning take a day's trip to Rameshwaram. Go by car, leave early and come back late in the evening. Rameshwaram is one of the five holiest temples of India. The trip may cost around Rs.150. On the 5th day, hire a car to go to Kanya Kumari. Five hours' drive costs about Rs. 120 and you can have a look at a string of temples enroute. If you leave early, you can reach there in time to see sunset. At Kanya Kumari, both Kerala and Tamil Nadu Governments maintain excellent guest houses, very clean and comfortable, charges are about Rs.20 for a suite per night. Spend the night there, see sunrise next day morning, visit Vivekananda Rock and take a bus to Trivendrum. It is 35 miles trip. At Trivendrum, visit the temple of Padmanabham—the only Vishnu temple in the South—go around the city which is full of gardens and palaces and take the flight back to Madras in the evening. Throughout the trip, roads are excellent, cars can be rented easily and at reasonable price, (a car carries 4 persons), good hotels are available and people are friendly and eager to please you. It is one of the most enjoyable and low cost trip that one can take. And you see the Hindu culture at its glory.

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Indians Abroad

UNITED KINGDOM

Indian Workers Association

The Indian Workers' Association of Southall celebrated Independence Day with a colourful cultural programme on 25 August at the Dominion Ballroom.

Mrs Leela Kulkarni, the Bhangra team of Oxford, Mrs Bhupinder Kaur and Mrs Bhanwra were among those who presented a programme of qawali, bhangra and folk dance and song.

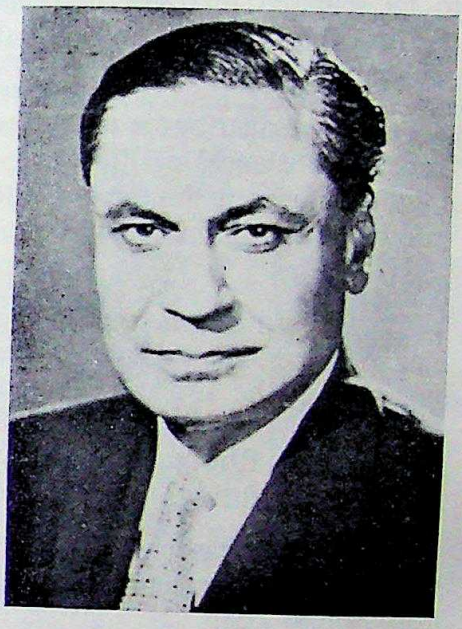
Earlier in the day, delegates from various immigrant organisations met in the Dominion to discuss means of protesting against the 1971 Immigration Act's retrospective effect.

Office-bearers of Indian Socialist Group (UK)

At the Annual General Meeting of the Indian Socialist Group (UK), held at the India Club on 20 August under the chairmanship of Mr Hrisi Ranjan Chakravorty, the following office bearers were elected: Secretary, Mr Upinder S. Dugal; Jt. Secretary, Mr Kartik Das; Treasurer, Mr Kultar S. Dugal; Publicity Sec., Mr A. Mookerjee; members, Mr Shaukat Ali, Miss V. Arora and Mr Sohan Singh Thandi.

Durga Puja Dusserah Committee, 1973

The London Durga Puja Dusserah Committee for 1973 is as follows: Patron, Mrs Ashalata Bhattacharya; President, Mr Bhardwaj Indra; Vice-presidents, Mr A. K. Roy Chaudhuri and Mr B. B. Roy; Chairman, Mr Subodh Barman; Gen. Sec., Mr Kabul Majumdar; Jt. Treasurers, Mr Amiya Bose and Mr Samir Dutt; Jt. Secretaries, Mrs Pompa Barman, Mrs Joly Roy, Mrs Surmistha Mitra and Mr Manab Paul.



Mr B. K. Nehru, India's new High Commissioner in U.K.

C'wealth Ministers urged to help Uganda expellees

The Co-ordinating Committee for the Welfare of Evacuees from Uganda sent a telegram to the Commonwealth prime ministers meeting in Ottawa urging them to press the British Government to admit into Britain the 300 Uganda Asians stranded in Bombay whose families are already here.

Th Uganda Evacuees Association also sent a letter to the Ottawa conference drawing attention to the failure on the part of the Government of Uganda to honour its obligations to compensate those UK citizens forced to abandon their assets in Uganda when they were expelled last year.

Mr M. A. S. Dalal, President of the Indian Social Club, London, speaking at the Club's Independence Day celebration. Others in the Picture (from left) Mr Sunder Kabadi, Miss Marie Seton, Mrs Kay Dalal, Mr A. Madhavan, Minister in the Indian High Commission, Mr Dalal, Lord Fenner Brockway and Mrs A. Madhavan.

Photo: Madan Arora

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SOUTH AFRICA

Piracy of Indian Films

Action against apartheid is costing India millions of rupees in precious foreign exchange as Indian films are openly pirated and publically exhibited on the South African circuit, and their producers do not get anything for their products.

Looking through South African newspapers, one can find almost 80 per cent of Indian films advertised for public shows. Top money spinners in Hindustani and Tamil draw large crowds in South Africa but the Indian producers do not get anything. The middlemen who pirate their prints reap rich profits without having to pay anyone for the product.

In 1959, after a long presentation of case by Indian Motion Picture Distributors Association of Bombay, Government of India officially agreed to export Indian films to South Africa on cultural grounds. This situation prevailed for a few years when films could be sold for South African rights and producers or distributors in India were paid in foreign exchange.

When a general ban was imposed on all commodities and trade the export of Indian films also came within the preview of the sanction. The distributors of South Africa were perturbed at this. They started working on ways and means to keep their supply replenished. The South African distributors approached colleagues in various territories, such as Zambia, Malawi, Hong Kong, London to either loan a print for quick release or sell them a print—not the rights. The South African distributors would take films and first come first released basis. Distributors in different circuits found quick money in this racket. Now many know how to include South African rights by camouflaging them with any of the overseas territories. Gradually more than one distributor would import an extra print or two of the same film, possibly from different sources for this piracy.

The print is pirated and more copies are made. It is sometimes even dubbd in another language or sub-titled in English to be released in other markets of the Middle East and West Africa.

Thus the distributor with the 'canclealed clause' of illegal circuits pays a mere fraction of the true price and makes untold profits.

The only loser is the Indian film producer, the Indian film industry and the Indian Government. Of course, the South African and Rhodesian distributors are benefitting.

Since India has no diplomatic ties with these two regimes, no legal action can be instituted against this infringement of copyright.

The only way out for India is to take a bold decision and approve the export of Indian films. This is unthinkable considering India's firm stand with free African governments against the minority regimes of Southern Africa.

But this action against apartheid is being paid for dearly as India pretends that there is no piracy of her films and continues to let foreign exchange run out this hole in the pocket.

—Kul Bhushan.

S. African tricked to invite Indian

Dr Albert Mertzog, leader of South Africa's ultra-right wing Herstigte Nasionale Party, complained bitterly that as a result of a hoax an Indian had been invited to his home for tea.

Dr Hertzog, whose small party in opposed to social contact between whites and non-whites, issued the invitation to a graduate of Holland's Leiden University at the suggestion of a friend.

When his doorbell rang last week he was confronted by the Leiden graduate — an Indian university lecturer from Durban accompanied by a companion.

Dr Hertzog, who invited his visitors inside for a talk, told newsmen yesterday that someone had tricked his friend into suggesting the invitation.

He had expected to see a white fellow graduate of Leiden, he said.

India's Deputy Minister for Health & Family Planning, Mr K. Basappa, currently attending the 24th World Scout Conference at Nairobi, called on Kenya's Minister for Health, Dr Z. T. Onyonka, on July 20. The High Commissioner for India, Mr K. C. Nair, accompanied him.

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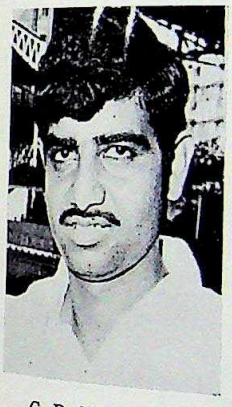
KENYA

To-day, India reigns supreme in cricket... Having won the cricket test matches against Britain and Australia, the Indian cricket team toured Kenya, Tanzania and Zambia and won all matches that were played.

Indian cricketeers proved more popular than the Indian film stars who have been here recently. They were also better crowd pullers than politicians. Photographs of the team members are given here.

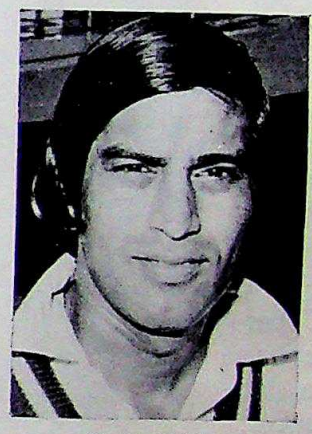
Mansur Khan

Mansur Khan, former Nawab of Pataudi, now a businessman, and husband of Sharmila Tagore. G. R. Vishwanath, a Mysorean and employed with the State Bank of India. K. R. Gattani, a Rajasthani working with TELCO Tatanagar. E. D. Solkar, a Bombayite working in Mafatlal group of mills. Dilip Sardesai, a Goanese in the employ of Vissanjis group. R. D. Parkar, a Bombayite working with Tata Chemicals. K. S. Inderjit Singh, hails from Saurashtra and works for Associated Cement Company. R. S. Sharma, a Rajasthani working with Mafatlal group. R. Tandon, from Nagpur and employed with TELCO, Tatanagar. P. K. Shivalkar from Bombay and empolyed with Tata Chemicals. V. Mankad from Bombay who works for Mafatlal Group. Ajit Naik from Bombay and employed in Tata Oil Mills. B. S. Chandrasekhar from Mysore, works with Syndicate Bank —**Kul Bhushan.**



G. R. Vishwanath

K. R. Gattani



E. D. Solkar

Dilip Sardesai

R. D. Parkar

K. S. Inderjit Singh

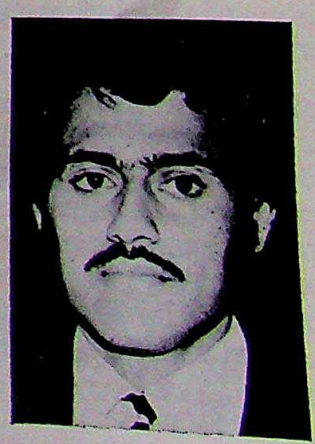
R. S. Sharma

R. Tandon

P. K. Shivalkar

V. Mankad

Ajit Naik



B. S. Chandrasekhar

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MALAYSIA / SINGAPORE

King Honours Leader of Malaysian Indian Business Community

His Majesty the Yang dipertuan Agung conferred the award of the Panglima Setia Mahkota (P.S.M.) on Senator Detuk S. O. K. Ubaidullah, President of the Associated Indian Chambers of Commerce, at an investiture ceremony held at the Istana Negara on June 6 to mark His Majesty's official birthday. The award carries the title on "Tan Sri".

Tan Sri Ubaidullah, 55, is the longest serving member of the nation's central legislature. From 1948 to 1959, he has been a member of the federal legislative Council, and since 1959, a member of the Senate (Upper House of Parliament). He has also represented Malaysia at various international conferences. His firm Ubaiduallah & Co. Pte. Ltd. are the agents for the Shipping Corporation of India at Kuala Lumpur and Klang.

Bangladesh Foreign Minister in Singapore

Bangladesh Foreign Minister Dr Kamal Hossain was in Singapore from July 14 to 17, on an official visit to the Republic in the course of his tour of South East Asia to further strengthen his country's relations with the territories in this region.

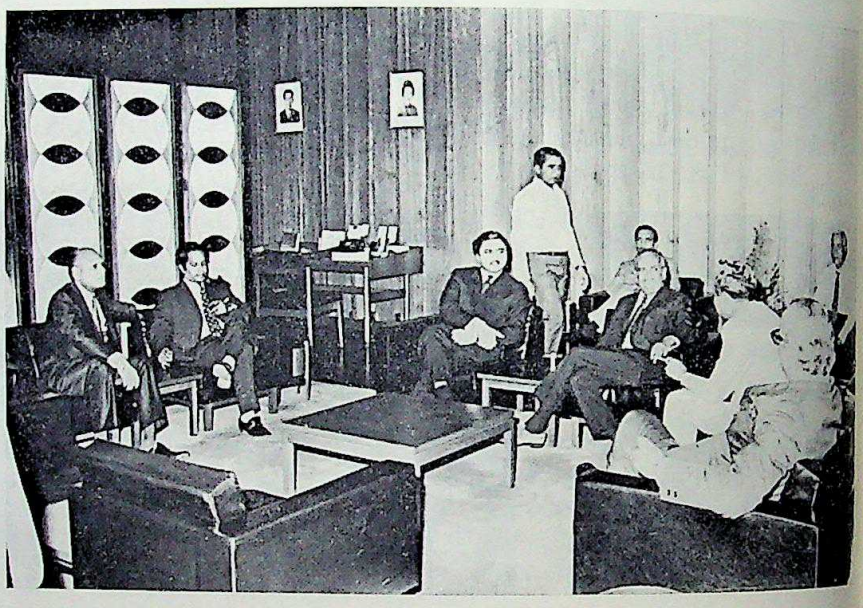
He was welcome on arrival by his Singapore counterpart Mr S. Rajarathnam. Also present at the airport were the Bangladesh Trade Commissioner in Singapore, Mr A. F. Mohamed Shamsuzzaman, leading members of the local Bangla community and others

Noted Malayalam novelist entertained

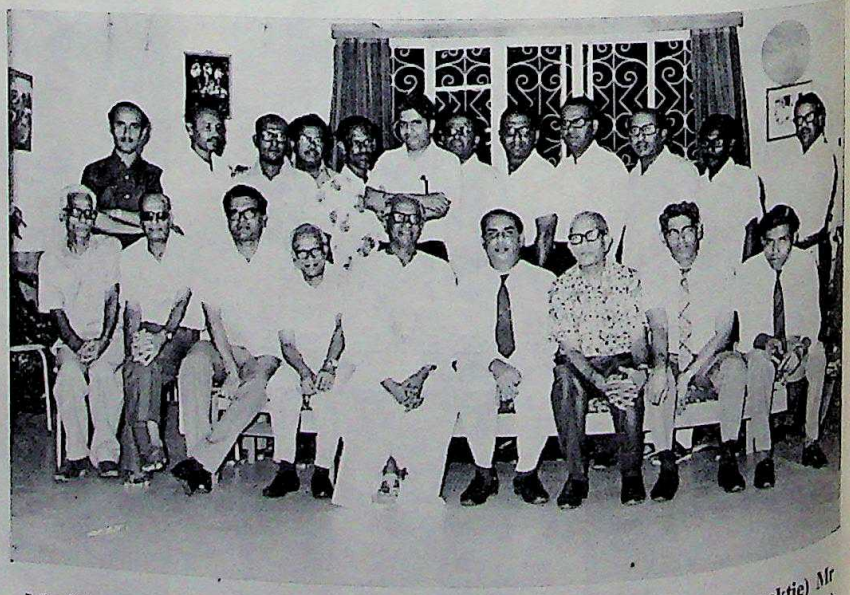
During his recent visit to Singapore, the well-known Malayalam novelist and short story writer, Mr E. M. Kovoor, was entertained to a tea party by the President of the Singapore Indian Congress, Mr John Jacob. Mr Kovoor was in Singapore as a delegate to the East Asia Christian Conference held in the Republic.

The party at Mr Jacob's residence was attended a large number of Malayalam writers and journalists in Singapore including Mr M. K. Menon, a recipient of the Kerala Academy Award for his well-known book "Niramulla Nizhalukal" (Colourful Shadows).

—G. S. Muthukrishnan.



Dr Kamal Hossain seated in the centre, Mr Rajaratnam on his left. Also seen in the picture is Mr A. F. Mhd. Shamsuzzaman, BD Trade Commissioner in Singapore.



Mr Kovoor seated in the centre, with Mr John Jacob (wearing necktie) Mr M. K. Menon (folded hand) and our correspondent G. S. Muthukrishnan at extreme left.

Pic. Ramesh Babulal.

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Indian Fashion Show in Singapore

Happiness is living out of suitcases filled with haute couture for these four Indian models, all beauty queens.

For them, it has been an endless round of packing and unpacking between journeys with clothes straight off the racks of top fashion houses and boutiques.

"This is life as we love it," said Mehar Mistry, a former Miss India, who has been in Singapore twice before and featured in Asia Magazine and Her World.

"I get tired if I have to remain in one place longer than a week," said Mehar, 29, who has been in full-time modelling since she won her title nine years ago.

Mehar, Esther Mathai, 24, Kavita Bhambhani, 23, and Salome Aaron, 25, led by the editor of Femina fashion magazine, Dr K. D. Jhangiani, flew in from Jakarta.

They staged two fashion shows at the Singapore Hilton featuring 48 Indian and Western outfits, including sarees, maxi dress and evening gowns.

The fashion show, sponsored by Femina magazine, a leading Times of India publication, and the Indian Eagle Flask Company, has been staged in six Asian countries during the past two months to display Indian-made fabrics.

PICTURE: Esther (standing on left) and Salome; in front, Mehar and Kavita.

(Courtesy: Straits Times)

His Majesty (right) conferring the award of the Panglima Setia Mahota on Senator Datuk Ubaidullah.

Pic. Ramesh Babulal.

He who bleats loudest

The feuding Congress politicians of Gujarat were presented to the citizens in a tableau enacted by 139 sheep on the city streets in Ahmedabad.

The strength of the state assembly is 139. The sheep were to participate in the drama organised by the Gujarat Yuvak Nagrik Samiti, but only five turned up as the police objected to all the "woollies" taking part in the show.

The flock was greeted by more than 100 students and teachers as it alighted from a truck in front of the Roopali Cinema. Some of the student participants in the show wore khadi to look like politicians.

The procession, which started from the Roopali Cinema, terminated near the Novelty Theatre. The plumpest ruminant immediately named 'Chimanbhai.' The one that bleated the loudest was 'Amul Desai, and a third that shed away from the group was called 'Kantilal Ghia.'

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LAGOS / NIGERIA

Indigenisation of business enterprises — No plans to drive out foreign traders

Out of the swirling chaos of the 1967-70 civil war Nigeria has emerged again as the leading nation in West Africa.

If a nation's recovery after disaster can ever be attributed to a single individual then in the case of Nigeria that man is General Yakubu Gowon, the 39 year oud Head of State. Soon after the war, Gen Gowon had said: "Nigeria can never be great until we abandon tribalism and selfishness, and learn to appreciate the rights, customs and traditions of others. My word and honour are on the line, and our country's prestige is at stake."

Gen Gowon has still a long way to go to achieve a situation in Nigeria where a return to real democracy is a practical possibility.

But as Africa moves into the centre of the world political and economic arenas and tensions in the Continent mount, the experience of Gen Gowon in reuniting Nigeria and trying to restore her economy is of more than national significance. Gen Gowon has some problems to confront in the economic spheres. Some of his recent measures have evoked considerable misgivings, coming in the aftermath of the unfortunate experience of foreigners, the long-settled and entrenched Asian settlers, in Uganda only very recently.

What has given undue misgivings about Nigeria's attitude to foreign traders is Gen Gowon's proposed legislation on "The Indigenisation of business enterprises." This comes into force on March 31, 1974, when Nigerians will become the exclusive masters of small scale industries.

But explained the newly stationed Commissioner of the Commission of the Federal Republic of Nigeria in Hong Kong, Mr Mahmud Abubakar, this legislation is not intended to drive away to foreign traders, much less the Indian businessmen, most of whom have been pioneers in building up the Nigerian economy, as they have been in most parts of Africa and Asia. Several Indian firms based in Hong Kong have long standing dealings with Nigerian businessmen and Government agencies.

Mixed Reaction

"The legislation in question is not directed against any group of foreigners, much less Indians," said Mr Abubakar. According to him the legislation generally affected every foreign businessman. When it was in the blueprint stage reactions within Nigeria were mixed. Nigerians were obviously happy about it, while the foreigners displayed understanding tempered with skepticism. Nigeria considers that small scale industries, industries needing simple technology as well as retail trade are now within the capability of Nigerian businessman.

The legislation provides that, from the effective date of March 31, 1974, Nigerians will be the exclusive masters of 22 selected enterprises listed below:

Advertising agencies and public relations business; all aspect of pools betting and lotteries; record changers, television sets, tape recorders and other electric domestic appliances not combined with manufacture of components; blending and bottling of alcoholic drinks; blocks, bricks, and ordinary tiles, manufacture for building and construction works.

Bread and cake making; candle manufacture; casinos and gambling centres; cinemas and other places of entertainment; clearing and forwarding agencies; hair dressing; haulage of goods by road; laundry and dry cleaning.

Manufacture of jewellery and related articles; newspaper publishing and printing; ordinary garment manufacture not combined with production of textile materials; municipal bus service and taxis; radio and television broadcasting; retail trade (except by or within the departmental stores and supermarkets), rice milling; singlet manufacture; and tyre retreading.

There is a second list of enterprises, namely:

Beer brewing; boat building; bicycle and motorcycle tyre manufacture; bottling soft drinks; coastal and inland water ways shipping; construction industries; cosmetics and perfumery manufacture; departmental stores and super markets; distribution agencies for machines and technical equipment.

New Circumstances

Distribution and servicing of motor vehicles, tractors, and spare parts thereof on other similar objects; estate agency; fish, shrimp trawling and processing; furniture making; insecticides, pesticides and fungicides; internal air transport (scheduled and charter services); manufacture of bicycles, cement, matches, metal containers, paints, varnishes or other similar articles; soaps and detergents.

Suitcases, briefcases, hand bags, purses, wallets, portfolios and shopping bags; manufacture of wires, nails, washers, bolts, rivets and other similar articles; paper conversion industries; passenger buses (interstate);

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poultry farming; printing of books; production of sawn timber, plywood, veneers; screen printing on cloth, dyeing, slaughtering; storage; distribution and processing of meat; shipping; and travel agencies and whole-sale distribution.

However, Mr Abubakar said, in the latter list foreigners are still allowed to participate provided the paid-up capital of the enterprise concerned is more than Nigerian £400,000 or the turnover is over N£1 million.

The legislation also stipulates that in any such foreign capital participation, there must be 40 per cent equity participation by Nigerians. How the new legislation will affect even the many foreign retail traders especially Indians, remains to be seen.

According to Mr Abubakar this legislation is not a novelty. Many countries have, in different ways, made similar enactments. "We think it is a realistic approach to solving our problems," said Mr Abubakar. "We have obligations to the Nigerian people who have to be provided with ample opportunities to participate in the running of their economy.

"We appreciate the understanding shown by the foreigners concerned who are now making efforts to adjust to the new circumstances."

Many of them have long foreseen the new trend and pulled out of areas now set aside for Nigerians.

Mr Abubakar appreciated these foreigners for the confidence they have shown in Nigeria and her future. "We hope they will continue to demonstrate that confidence by confining themselves to areas of enterprise where special skills, technology and capital are needed," said the Nigerian Commissioner in Hong Kong.

Guidelines have been drawn up concerning repatriation of foreign capital in such instances, the Nigerian diplomat said.

During 1973-74, subject to exchange control regulations, expatriate shareholders in companies set up in Nigeria will be allowed to remit arrears of dividends in 1971 in full and 25 per cent of dividends in 1972. It is estimated that the amount involved in remittances of such dividends, the management and technical fees will amount to about N£60 million.

In view of the large sums involved in such dividends, the exchange control regulations require expatriate companies to obtain the authority of the Nigerian Minitsry of Finance before enjoying any local bank overdraft or loan facility.

Remittances

Another problem that has been causing irksome concern among businessmen, who have dealings with Nigeria, is the undue delay experienced in getting remittances from Nigeria.

Mr Abubakar claimed the foreign exchange situation in his country was improving. His Government announced last April that the 180 day waiting period was to be abolished and a normal international trading system of payment be restored.
—**K. R. Ramanath.**

BANGKOK

Ecafe will 'sack' Indians

Ecafe executive secretary J.B.P. Maramis plans to reduce the number of Indian nationals working in his organisation and to drastically bring down the "number of consultants," according to the Nation newspaper here.

Mr Maramis reportedly said that India is "over-represented" in Ecafe, asked by The Nation how he will carry out his re-shuffle" Mr Maramis said "I won't renew their contracts."

The Indonesian executive secretary, who took up his new post on August 1, said he is trying to build up a strong "devoted permanent staff" for Ecafe. "I am looking for new young talents from various countries," he said.

"An "informal meeting" of the permanent representatives of all Ecafe members will be held very soon to study recommendations and suggestions on how to "restructure and streamline" Ecafe according to a resolution made at the Tokyo annual conference in April.

Mr Maramis said he had received some "very interesting" suggestions from the 31 Ecafe members and eight associate members on how to improve on the performance of the organisation.

Performance by child prodigy

Kumari Sri Kala Krishnamoorthy gave a recital of Indian Classical dances at the A.U.A. auditorium recently. A large gathering enjoyed the dance recital.

Sri Kala is 11 years old but has already earned encomiums both at home and abroad. She is a disciple of the celebrated Vazhvor School of Bharathanatyam.

Miss Sri Kala Krishnamoorthy

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TURKEY

Indian gift to Turkey

"We hope this presentation will start the beginning of a fundamental co-operation between Turkey and India in cultural, social and technical fields", said Prof. (Dr) Tarik G. Somer, Acting President of the Middle East Technical University, Ankara, while receiving a presentation of books on India from Mr K. R. Narayanan, the Ambassador of India. He said that common problems between Turkey and India bring them closer, and expressed the hope that "such a goodwill gesture would draw us closer together, directly in the interests of Turkey and India, and indirectly, for the humanity at large".

Photograph shows (left to right): Prof. (Dr.) Tarik G. Somer, Acting President of the Middle East Technical University, Ankara, and Ambassador K. R. Narayanan. Looking on is Prof Y. T. Kurat, Assistant President of Middle East Technical University.

Earlier, speaking on the occasion, Ambassador Narayanan said that these books were just a "token of friendship" and he expressed the hope that India's relations with this great educational institution will develop more concretely in the future. The Ambassador thanked Prof Somer and his wife, for having taken him and Mrs Narayanan round the University after a luncheon.

Also present on the occasion were Prof Fahir Armaoglu, Chairman, Board of Trustees, M.E.T.U., Prof Y. T. Kurat, Assistant President of M.E.T.U, and Mr Somnath Dhar, First Secretary (Information & Culture) of the Indian Embassy and Mrs Dhar

The books presented dealt with history, art, architecture, literature, philosophy etc., of India. — **Somnath Dhar.**

SUDAN

New Ambassador of India

H. E. Dr Indu Prakash Singh, Ph.D., Ambassador of India in Sudan presented his credentials to H. E. Major General Gaafar Mohamed Nimeri, President of the Democratic Republic of the Sudan on the 10th July, 1973.

In his opening speech, before presenting a letter of credence, Dr. I. P. Singh expressed hope that the economic relations between India and Sudan would be strengthened through mutual co-operation in the field of Industry and Technology and friendship between the two countries and its people will grow more stronger.

Welcoming Dr. Singh, H.E. Major General Gaafar Mohamed Nimeri said that the relations of friendship between Sudan and India are close, and are steadily growing, judging from the presence of Indian Community particularly in every town of the Sudan. He offered his help in execution of the valuable task of strengthening the friendly relations between the two countries

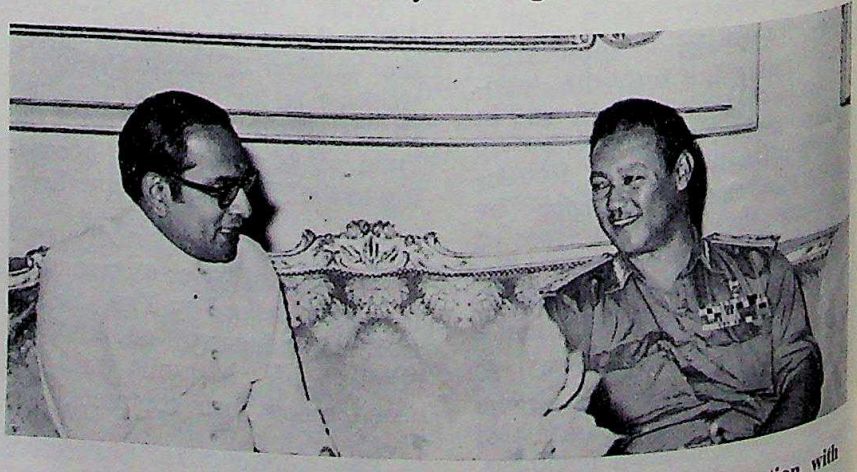
Indian Expert Dies

Mr G. T. Karnani, Road Construction Engineer, Ministry of Transport, Democratic Republic of the Sudan, met with a car accident while on his way to Embassy Residence to attend the Dinner party on the 2nd August, 1973 and died before reaching the hospital.

Mr G. T. Karnani

The funeral procession was attended by H.E. Dr I. P. Singh, Ambassador of India, Shri N. K. Ghose, First Secretary, other officers of the Embassy, members of the Indian Community, Omdurman, Khartoum and local Sudanese.

Mr Karnani was working with the Sudan Government for the last 18 years. He left behind his wife and three sons. — **Jagjit Singh.**



H. E. Dr I. P. Singh, Ambassador of India, Sudan in conversation with H.E. Major-General Gaafar Mohamed Nimeri, President of the Republic of the Sudan.

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ISRAEL

Oustanding Award

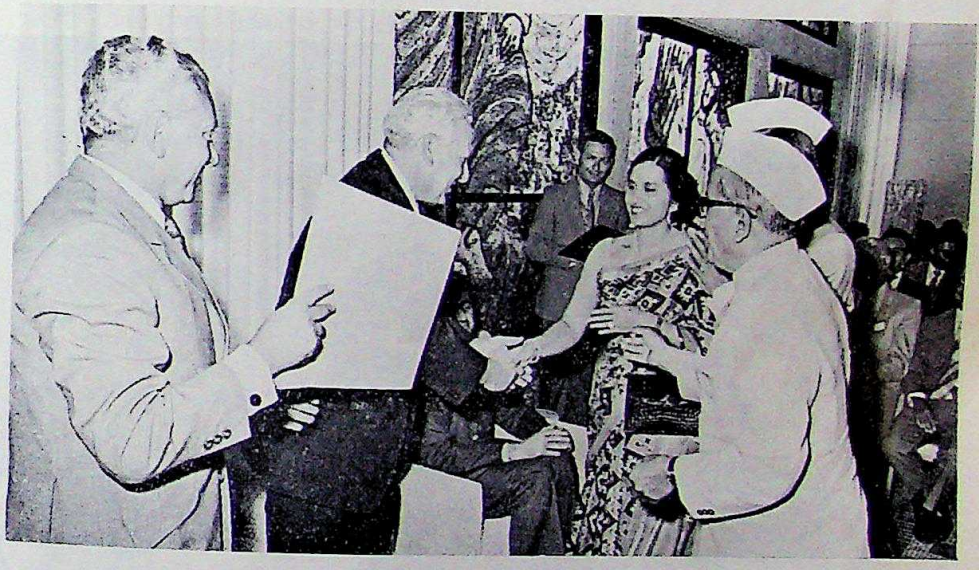
At a ceremony held in the Presidential Palace in Jerusalem, on 10th June, 1973, in an unusual assembly of distinguished businessmen gathered from all over the world, the Israeli President Professor EPHRAIM KATZIR awarded Mr Kirtilal M. Mehta, an Indian National, a certificate as an "Outstanding Israel Trade Promoter" in recognition of his group's purchases of Israeli diamonds aggregating HK$80/- million in 1972. Since the declaration of the establishment of the State of Israel, he is the only Indian awarded such a recognition by the Head of the State.

Mr Kirtilal Mehta started his career at the tender age of fourteen and is still active in Diamond business since over half a century. He has own offices in Antwerp, Bombay, Hong Kong (Aryan International), New York and Tel-Aviv. At an exhibition organized by the ISRAELI Diamond Industry in Tel-Aviv in June 1973, Mr Mehta displayed one colossal diamond weighing 234.00 carats from his own collection which was a focal point of tremendous attention to large crowds.

On the eve of his receiving by the President in Jerusalem, Mr Mehta and his whole family who had traditional reunion of every member of his family on this occasion of great achievement, gave a large gala dinner party attended by 300 distinguished Diamond Merchants and high Government officials.

Both these occasions were given a wide publicity in Israel by press and television.

Seen L to R: Mrs Anila K. Kothari, Mr Kirtilal M. Mehta, shaking hands with the President of State of Israel, Ephraim Katzir.



Seen L to R are Mr Barlev Minister of Commerce and Industry of Israel, President Ephraih Katzir, shaking hands with Mrs Anila K. Kothari, Mr Rashmi K. Mehta, Mr Kirtilal M. Mehta.

Mr Kirtilal M. Mehta, displaying the certificate of award, with his family members in Jerusalem at Presidential Palace.

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CANADA

The Prime Minister, Mrs Indira Gandhi came to Canada on a goodwill tour (Already reported in an earlier issue.—Ed). She visited a number of Canadian cities including Ottawa, Montreal, Toronto, Vancouver & Victoria, and everywhere she was enthusiastically received. Her visit further strengthened the traditional bonds of friendship between India and Canada.

The Prime Minister, Mrs Indira Gandhi with the Premier of Quebec and Mrs Bourassa.

With Federal Leaders

The Prime Minister, Mrs Indira Gandhi with Right Hon'ble the Governor General of Canada and Mrs Roland Mitchener and Prime Minister of Canada and Mrs Trudeau.

Address to the Indian Community

The Prime Minister met members of the Indian community wherever she went. Here, she is seen addressing he Indian community in Vancouver.

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NEW DELHI

Overseas Indians Manhandeled

How the hard-headed, but scarcely coordinated, policies of the governments of Africa's eastern seaboard, India and Britain have converted the hapless East Africans of Indian origin into human shuttlecocks could not have been epitomised better than by the tragi-comic drama enacted at Delhi's Palam airport a few weeks ago.

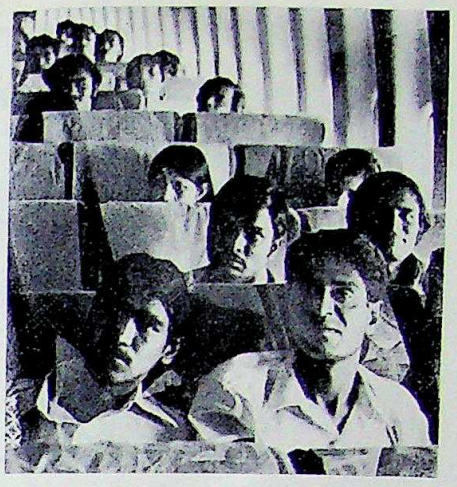
One hundred and seven Ugandans of Indian origin, including 15 girls and a child were forcibly removed from a Pan American jumbo jet after their futile bid to force the airline to fly them to London. All held British passports and had come from Bangkok.

They were ordered to leave the aircraft from which they refused to get off for 17 hours after the airline had lodged a report with the police that they were "trespassers". Some of them voluntarily left the plane. Many were hustled out and manhandled in the process.

The passengers, all Gujaratis, raised slogans against the police when they were off-loaded. Many said they had been cheated by a travel agency which had promised them entry into the U.K. if they staged the sit-in. Some of them were in tears and squatted on the tarmac after they were lifted out of the plane.

All were taken in an airline bus and police vans to Delhi Cantonment police station. A magistrate remanded them to judicial custody.

The Asians who had return tickets to Delhi refused to disembark when the plane carrying them from Bangkok reached Palam at 3 a.m. They insisted that they should be flown to London because they held British passports. They were prepared



Ugandans of Indian origin staging sit-in in a Pan American plane at Palam recently.

to pay their fares up to London. The captain of the plane argued with them in vain to leave the aircraft and let it proceed on its onward journey.

The airline officials hoped that they would disembark after a couple of hours. But nothing of the kind happened. The passengers refused to come out of the plane even to have tea or snacks. Most of them did not eat or drink anything as long as they remained aboard the aircraft.

The unprecedented protest put the Pan Am flight schedule out of gear and left as many as 174 transit and boarding passengers stranded while the authorities were engaged in seemingly endless talks with the passengers in a bid to persuade them to leave the plane.

Mr L. J. James, first Secretary, in the British High Commission, Delhi was summoned to the airport by airline officials to persuade the passengers to disembark. He said they would not be welcomed to London without the necessary visa. But his pleadings fell on deaf ears.

There were several rounds of talks in and outside the stranded aircraft, between the representatives of the passengers and the Pan American, airport and civil authorities.

Harassed officials called two representatives of the passengers out of the aircraft and told them that all of them would be evicted if they continued with the sit-in. The representatives of the passengers returned to the aircraft, but there was no response to the threat. Ultimately, following a complaint by the airline, a posse of constables, including a riot squad, surrounded the aircraft and started removing the passengers forcibly.

Before the eviction, the Deputy Commissioner, Mr Kapoor, and the Deputy Director of Airport Authority, Capt D. K. Malaviya, went into the aircraft in last-minute persuasion efforts. The authorities then opened the rear door and the passengers, offering stout resistance, were bodily lifted out of the plane one by one.

Inquiries revealed that all the 107 passengers had travelled from Delhi to Bangkok in small groups or individually over eight to 12 weeks. In Bangkok they assembled and took the Pan-Am flight. Apparently, they hoped that by refusing to get off the plane at Delhi they would force the airline to fly them to London.

It is stated that a Delhi-based travel agency, which sold them return tickets and promised them entry into U.K. had egged them on to stage the sit-in. The agency had charged each passenger Rs 6000. Earlier also, the travel agency was involved in a similar illegal racket.

Apparently the passengers, misled by the travel agency, hoped that Indian authorities in accordance with the law of the land would not force to land here people who were not Indian citizens. But another law which was invoked by the civil authorities provides that captain of the plane touching an Indian port can declare anybody abroad his plane trespasser and thus liable to eviction.

The director and manager of the travel agency, which had duped the young Ugandans of Indian origin, have since been arrested. — **Arvind Bhandari.**

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HONG KONG

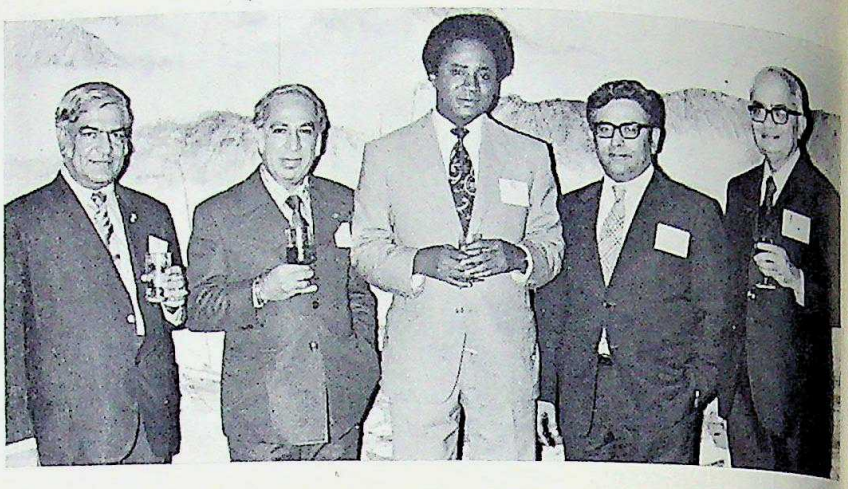
Hari Harilela Elected

At the Annual General meeting of India Club held on 21st August, 1973 at the premises of India Club, Kings Park, Kowloon, following office bearers were elected.

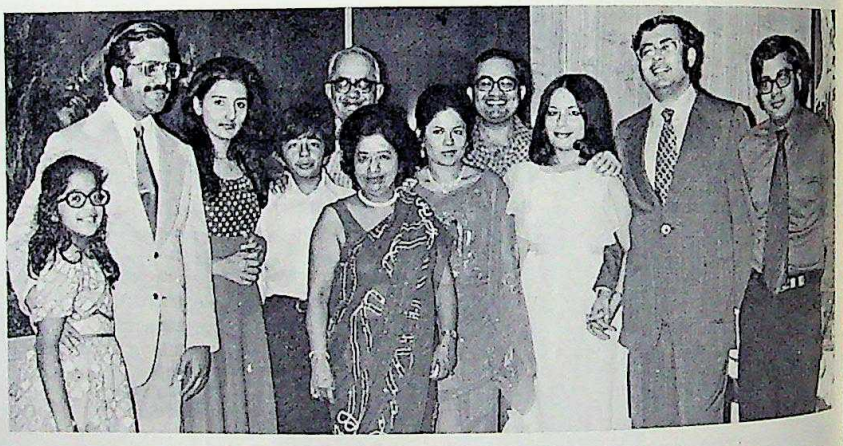
President—Mr H. N. Harilela, Vice President—Mr H. G. Moorjani, Hon. Secretary—Mrs Khan Pani, Jt. Secretary—Mr H. A. Advani, Hon. Treasurer—Mr S. S. Tulsi, Committee members: Messers Bhagwan Motwani, Haresh Wadhwani, Harnam Grewal, Larry Parmanand, Glen Bahrurani, Y. J. Khan, Ussaf Khan. Ex. officio: Mr G. Hiranand.

The India Club management with obout $110,000 in hand, intend to completely renovate club and provide more facilities for the members.

On a short visit to Hongkong recently was Minoo Melwani from Lagos, Nigeria. Minoo who was President of Indian Women's Club —Hongkong during 1971 is a keen social worker.



The Indian Chamber of Commerce hosted a luncheon in honour of Mr M. Abubakar, Commissioner for Government of Nigeria in Hong Kong. Seen above L to R are: Mr M. P. Ladharam—Vice Chairman, Mr H. N. Harilela —J. P., The Nigerian Commissioner, Mr K. Sital—Chairman of the Indian Chamber and Mr J. Mulchand—Vice Chairman.



On the eve of their departure for Europe, Mr & Mrs J. Mulchand gave a farewell cocktail party at their residence. Seen above is Mulchand family.

Haresh, son of Mr & Mrs Tikamadas Punjabi of M/s. Maya Fashions, Hongkong, was married with Miss Mala, recently. Photo above shows the young couple sharing coke from one bottle at their wedding.

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Khushwant Singh in Hongkong

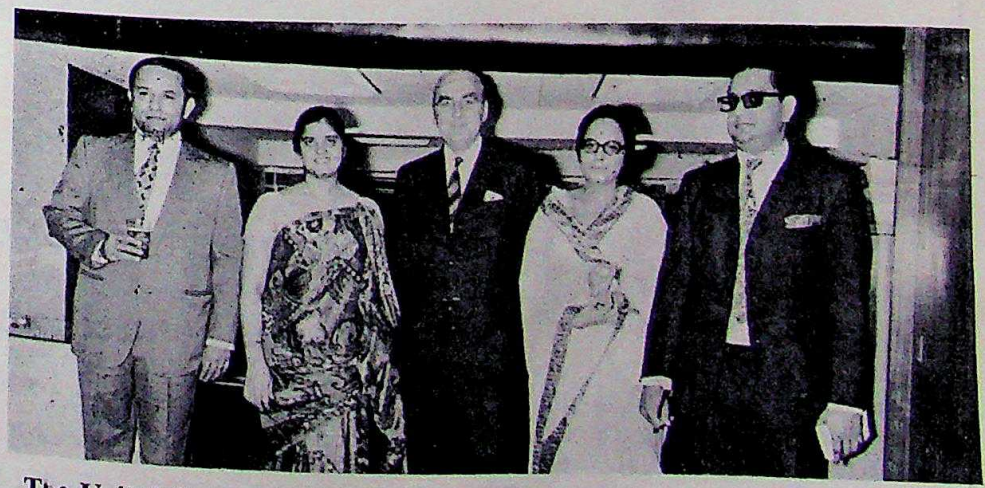
Mr Hero J. Panjabi, beloved son of Mr & Mrs Jairamdas V. Panjabi of M/s. Gems & Arts Industries, Hong Kong passed away suddenly on August 11, 1973, at his residence. Hero is survived by his widow and one daughter.. May his soul rest in peace.

The Nav Bharat Club's squash 1st Team won the Colony Knock-out Championship for the second year in succession.

Mr Sarinder Dillon won the Colony Open Plate Championship this year, thus keeping the Plate in the Club. Jasbir Wasan won it in the previous year.

Seen above are members of squash team Mike Stone, Chander Ramsinghani, Jasbir Wasan, Neils Kraunsoe.

The above picture was taken at Hongkong Hyatt Hotel, when Mr Khushwant Singh, editor of the Illustrated weekly of India, who is a seasoned journalist of renowned fame, passed through Hongkong and met the editor of "The Indian".



The United Commercial Bank gave a cocktail reception to celebrate openning of their new branch in Kowloon. Seen above are L to R: Mr R. K. Sood—Manager, Hong Kong Branch, Mrs Sood, Mr J. C. Patterson—Banking Commissioner, Mrs T. K. Ghose and Mr T. K. Ghose—Manager, Kowloon Branch.

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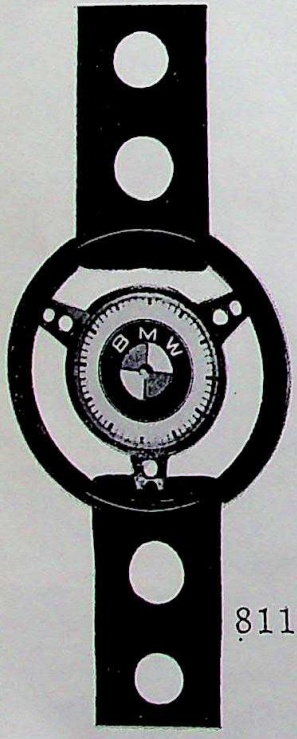

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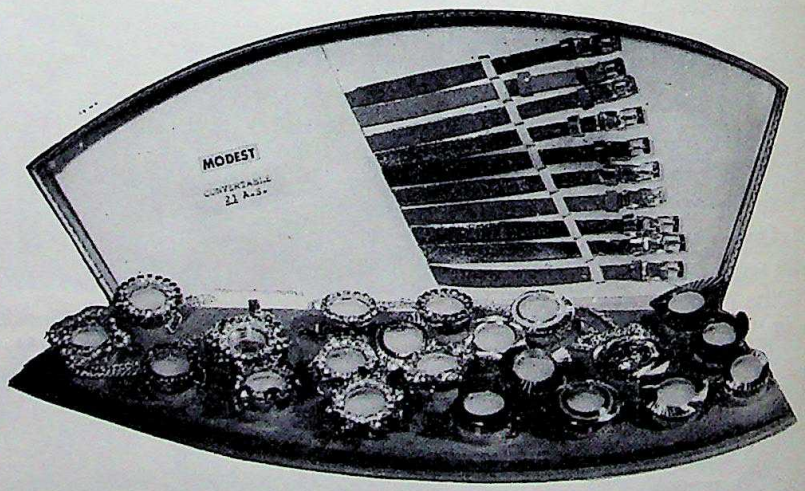

TRADE ENQUIRIES WELCOME

OM'S International,

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Reading Pleasure

Selections from Indian Press

Why not stuffed humans ?

Clubwala was driving his jeep fast. The jungle on either side was densest and the twin beams from the headlights pierced through the inky darkness, flooding the road ahead. Suddenly he saw someone walking in front. It was a woman. This is impossible, he thought.

He reached her. She was a young, comely thing, bare feet. Must be a local village belle, thought Clubwala.

"Hello," he said, "what are you doing here at this time of the night?"

"My conveyance will be coming shortly," she said.

"Where has it gone?" he asked mechanically.

"For refuelling," she replied.

"What's your name?" He queried.

"They call me Mai Bhawani."

Rather an odd name, thought Clubwala who was totally ignorant of Hindu mythology. "Can I give you a lift?" he offered gallantly.

"Yes," she got into the front seat and they sped on.

"Where do you catch up with your conveyance? At the forest chowki?" asked Clubwala nonchalantly, keeping the conversation going.

"No. There is nothing to eat there for him," she replied simply. "Him!", that sounded odd to Clubwala. "It's a horse, is it?"

"No, a tiger," she replied.

"A what!" asked Clubwala incredulously.

"Tiger. Don't you know that's my traditional conevyance?" she replied sharply.

She must be a nut, thought Clubwala, wondering how to get rid of her. But before he could speak, she asked. "What are you doing here?"

"Shooting a tiger," he replied shortly.

"What?" — acidly.

"Why! Well! Just to keep it as a trophy," replied Clubwala chattily.

"But why a tiger?" she wanted to know.

"It'll look nice, stuffed, in the mess. We don't have one you know," he replied.

"Look, I've an idea. I'll give you a skin, you can get it stuffed," she said enthusiastically.

"Really, that's awfully nice of you, I'll pay you well for it," said Clubwala eagerly.

"Only . . . . . "

"Only what?" he asked, a bit apprehensive.

"It is a human skin," she said flatly.

"Human skin?" squeaked Clubwala, edging away from her.

"What do you do with it?" he countered.

"I sit on it and meditate."

"What about?" he wanted to know.

"About the future of the human species."

"Oh!" But I couldn't take the skin."

"Why not?" she asked.

"Well for, one thing, it's not done, and secondy the law forbids the stuffing of humans," said Clubwala regaining some of his confidence, which had hit a new low.

"What's there in a law? I am told that a law is about to be enacted shortly against shooting tigers."

"I know. That's why I want to shoot one quickly," he replied.

"But what is there against enacting another law allowing the shooting of humans?" she said emphatically.

"We couldn't do that, it would be illogical," he explained patiently.

"That, I think, will be the most logical action; isn't the human species overpopulated?" she said, looking wise. "Besides," she continued, "you have some excellent specimens."

"Where are you going?" he asked changing the subject.

"You can drop me here, near this forest gate."

Clubwala stopped the jeep and she got out and walked away into the jungle. The gate was locked, so he had to turn the jeep around. As the headlights fell on the road: There she was seated on a magnificent tiger. It snarled, crouched and leapt on

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the jeep, emitting an ear-splitting roar.

"Don't stuff me Oh! Please, Miss Bhawani don't . . . ."

"Sahib Sahib, are you all right?" it was his batman shaking Clubwala.

"What's the matter?" he said opening his eyes and recognising the room in the forest inspection bungalow.

"You were shouting, Sahib," said the batman.

"Stuffed humans; and why not?" he muttered, going back to sleep.

Kailash Goswami:

Indian Express

The smiling mannequin

You don't have to be a millionaire to be able to afford ecentricities. This is just a myth perpetuated by the syndicated columnists of gossip magazines who make a living by writing about the "kinks" in the personalities of the worlds' shipping and old magnates.

I am surrounded by friends who abound in ecentricities. Not all of them, necessarily, endearing!

For example, I have this friend who writes poetry at the petrol-pump (or gas station). Every evening (Sundays and bank holidays included) you'll find him on the same bench at the same Caltex petrol pump writing away fervently on bus tickets, envelopes, unpaid bills, 5-star hotel toilet paper; even on the sleeve of his shirt sometimes. It's a conviction with him that the petrol pump (preferably Caltex) is the perfect "habitat" for a young, sensitive, urban poet. It has all the characteristically urban sights, smells and sounds to "turn on" a nimble mind to write hard-hitting contemporary poetry. The petrol pump is the nexus of the city!

He writes poetry in the two-lined Japanese-Haiku style—the form he likes best. Here are a few samples which readily come to mind:

> Opening her dry lunch box she Remembered the new bra in the display window.
>
> 93 Octane, fill her up!
> Now, whereto sweetheart?
>
> A lady with vericose veins, walking.
>
> With a leashed bitch on heat.

Many people I know of would like to hold a candle to his poems. And I have a strong feeling it would be a lighted one! A city can be very callous to a sensitive poet. So much for my petrol-pump-poet friend.

Another friend, who has a passion for women and McLuhan does a very crazy thing, whenever he's feeling at peace with the world. This feeling finds expression in the act of dropping change into manholes. This is usually after he's met a goodlooking woman or someone interested in McLuhan. Walking, he'll stop abruptly at a manhole, fumble in his pockets and drop whatever change he has into it It drives me crazy sometimes. His explanation for this is even crazier:

Centuries from now, when our civilisation has gone to seed, archaeologists excavating our drainage system will find valuable clues to our glorious civilisation through his coins!

Yet another friend just loves commercials. Roughly thrice a week, he buys a cinema ticket, has his fill of the commercials and walks out before the movie begins. He comes out looking as if he's seen the light. On many occasions he doesn't even bother to find out the title of the movie. He just can't understand why people walk out on commercials. It thrills him to the marrow when a "new" commercial is on at some theatre. At times, friends have persuaded him to sit through a movie eyes open. Besides, if he sits through a feature film, he develops a nasty headache.

But my sweetheart takes the cake. She makes it a point to pass a particular, display window at Colaba. She insists that whenever she passes it the mannequin smiles at her. Actually smiles at her. I have repeatedly tried to coax a smile from its sombre, tight-lipped features but in vain. A case of incompatibility, I guess.

In the true Zorba tradition, my friends (may their tribe increase) have the essential touch of madness. Its rubbing off on me. I'm glad. I've begun to light my cigarette at the filter end, having realised that filters don't prevent your getting cancer!

Ahmed Bunglowala:

The Times of India.

Losing your cool? Relax!

It's my considered judgment that people will say anything to get into print. Take Kissinger. Only the other day he delivered himself of a sentiment that appears fine in print but is all baloney, if you get to think about it in depth.

What Kissinger said was: "Give me a good negotiation. I lose my cool planning the guest list and seating."

Nobly spoken, sir, but what is so difficult about planning the guest list and seating? I haven't actually tried it but I'm sure my youngest daughter, who is ten, can do it blindfolded the way Sorcar was when he rode his bicycle through the streets of Paris.

Loquacious Women

For every retired military man that you must have, call one woman painter. Women painters are loquacious creatures and military men are good listeners even though they are anxious to burden themselves of the Burma campaign of 42. Their manners are excellent, inherited this

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hand from Sandhurst, and they say "You don't say!" with just the right amount of enthusiasm.

And women painters are easy to invite. They laze about in housecoats, call themselves housewives but there's no mistaking that gleam in their eye when you admire a painting on their wall. They live next door.

Black Badges

Similarly, for every humorous writer that you have, call one high official from the telephone department. They will wind up talking about the next bye-election anywhere of which neither knows anything precisely.

The seating is just as easy. No two bald people sit together. The reason is simple Bald people eat more than others (it's a way of self-gratification that they have) and you are apt to have one section of the table crying out for more supplies.

Nor two shorties together. Short people have short arms and they are unable to reach for the salt. Have one tall next to one short; the tall one gets the salt for the short one, unless the tall one wants the salt for himself. So one may go on and on but there's such a thing as the newsprint cut and one stops right here.

On the other hand, negotiations are hell. Kissinger has probably had better luck than most because he is in the envious position of agreeing to stop the bombing and not even wanting to do anything of that sort.

But you and I are more truthful and we should have nothing but trouble. We will have people wearing black badges and the slogan, "We Protest" neatly printed on them.

Going Along

And we will have our bosses saying. "Well done, Trivadi. Now next time I trust you'll be more tactful!"

This doesn't mean that I shall be unavailable for negotiations abroad. I'd go along, as so many of my countrymen are so willing to do, "just for the ride."

Trivadi:

Hindustan Times.

On saying goodbye

Seeing off people is an art. Everyone is not capable of being witty, ironical and satirical at all times.

To see off people is a very common but embarrassing experience. Yet, all of us have to face this situation sometime.

Seeing off a guest at the door is easy. But it takes a serious turn when you have to be physically present at the railway station. The seriousness is directly proportional to the distance of the journey as well as the period of absence.

The doorstep farewell is quite worthy. We can express ourselves rather easily without words betraying us. No awkwardness, no restraint, no nothing is there.

Yet, when we turn up at a station, we are suddenly put into a jam. We just find ourselves short of words. Hopeless questions and silly gestures follow.

Instead of indulging in a good talk, one just sums up and says: "Your Luggage intact?"

Damn it, it has to be intact. Who could afford to lose his suitcase? In between occur wide gulfs of silence. Neither side is able-to dish out a topic for discussion.

"Food is well-stored?" Another silly question. Who would keep his meals in an improper manner, knowing fully well that he has to eat it.

As the time of departure nears; the tension builds up. Although we are there to see our near and dear one, yet we long for the guard to blow his whistle and relieve us.

"Have you got everything"? asks one. "Yes, everything," comes the prompt reply. With a big emphasis the inquirer foolishly asks again, "everything"?

The railway platform has by now become a fool's paradise, full of "seers-off".

If you know the art of seeing people off it gives you great pleasure. Sometimes, it calls for a bit of acting too. Just imagine a humorous person trying to be serious because his friend won't be before him in flesh and blood for the next four or five years.

But this does not mean that every seer-off is an actor. A mother, whose son is going away from her, naturally does not shed crocodile tears.

Meanwhile, one who has been thinking of a topic, to break the ice, has just found that he is helpless. Since he has to say something he forces a smile and comes out with a chuckling "Well".

That nod, the smile and unmeaningful syllable is then immediately returned conscientiously.

The best advice is given best at the station only — with the traveller jutting out his head through the window and the sear-off standing very much concerned on the platform.

To kill time the platformer starts a conversation with a passenger whom he has never met before, while the poor friend has nothing to do except to wander his eyes in a useless gaze around.

Another platformer thinks the train is the best place for relieving himself, knowing fully well that the toilets are meant for the passengers only. The traveller is then put into a very embarrassing position when he has to go through his luggage to fish out the soap cake.

For the benefit of the American travellers in the late 19th century an institution was set up in Britain—the Anglo-American Social Bureau (AASB).

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The AASB had a nice set of actors who were hired by the Yankees, just to see them off.

The date of their departure and the description by which the seer-off could identify the person were sent to the bureau well before hand. A man was then promptly sent to the station or the port to do his duty.

The art was accomplished so skilfully that the public never could realise the fact that the passenger had all the time been chatting with a hired friend.

The employed would converse, laugh, bring tears in his eyes, hold hands, utter words of advice, look into his affairs with the guard, cooly or the booking clerk and would cater to his needs but in no circumstances would use the toilet!

Shashi Bhushan:

The Times of India.

Diplomacy — American Style

When he was U.S. ambassador to this country, Professor John Kenneth Galbraith occasionally used to end his cables to Washington with the words: "Would someone in the state department get-off his ass and do something?" This, he wrily confessed in his memoirs, sometimes achieved the desired result.

But nothing that Prof Galbraith ever cabled to the state department was half so astringent as a recent message by his former colleague at Harvard and successor in New Delhi twice removed, Mr Daniel P. Moynihan.

Asked by the state department to retain a part of the luxury building belonging to U.S. AID in New Delhi, which Mr Moynihan offered to the Indian government only the other day, he replied: "I quite understand that it might appear that we are off our rocker out here. But it comes down to simple matter of good faith. I have already told the Prime Minister that we are turning over the building complex to her. We might try to weasel out but you will need another ambassador for such work."

As for the luxury building itself, Mr Moynihan's cable said: "Nothing anywhere quite so brilliantly embodies Parkinson's law to the effect that institutions build their great building at just the moment when their decline sets in.

"By the end of the year we will have only eight AID people. I don't therefore need the building and I have got rid of it as we promised we would. Let this sad ending be a lesson to the next U.S. administration tempted by the edifice complex."

—The Statesman.

Humour

SAFE ENOUGH: It was their first plane ride, and a woman in the party felt quite nervous.

"You will bring us back safely, won't you?" she said to the pilot, with a rather faint smile, as they were about to start.

"Of course I will, miss," he assured her, touching his leather helmet, "I've never left anybody up there yet."

* * *

PROFESSIONAL: "She was too conscientious for me. One day I proposed marriage to her, and what do you think she did? She took all that I said down in shorthand and brought it nicely typewritten for me to sign."

VERY!: "Your uncle is a very religious man, I understand."

"Oh, yes indeed! He positively hates everybody who belongs to any other church than his own."

* * *

YOUNG ART: A young doctor had just hung up his name board when a patient with a very bad cold came along. "Can you cure this cold?" he sniffled anxiously. The young doctor thought hard and said, "Go home, take a hot bath, and then stand naked in a draught without drying yourself."

"Will that cure me" asked patient.

"I don't say that," answered the Doc. "But that will give you pneumonia and pneumonia I know to cure."

* * *

DIPLOMAT: Two young men were in earnest conversation on matters regarding the fair sex.

"How could you be so deceitful as to tell Miss Woodly she is pretty?' asked Clarence.

"I wasn't deceitful at all," replied Charles.

"But my dear man," said Clarence, "you don't mean to say you think she is actually pretty?"

"Of course not. What I told her was that she was as pretty as she could be."

* * *

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About This & That

Chinese girl wins Shankar's award

The top award for painting in Shankar's international children's competition for 1972 has gone to the People's Republic of China. Five-year-old girl, Ching-hua Lin, wins the President of India's gold medal for her entry titled "Cats".

Thirteen-year-old Rita Pohray's (India) written work "Around the World with Tripus" was adjudged the best among literary entries, entitling her to receive the Vice-President's gold medal.

Diplomat for Peking

Mr L. L. Mehrotra, charge d'affaires designate to China, left for Peking to take charge of his new post.

Mr Mehrotra, a director in the external affairs ministry, succeeds Mr Brijesh Mishra. He called on the Prime Minister before he left.

3 Indian folk singers win in world contest

Three Indian folk singers won medals and certificates in the folk songs competition for the Asian region held during the tenth world youth festival.

The singers are Arya Chaudhuri and Anup Ghosal from West Bengal and Narasimha Murty from Andhra Pradesh.

'No import of wives'

The planning minister, Mr D. P. Dhar, told the Rajya Sabha that the Planning Commission proposed to take some action on the "import of foreign cars with foreign wives."

Mr Dhar was referring to a Congress member, Mr Chandra Shekhar's demand during the discussion of the approach document to the fifth plan for stopping import of foreign cars by those who had married foreign nationals.

Scooter for each worker in unit

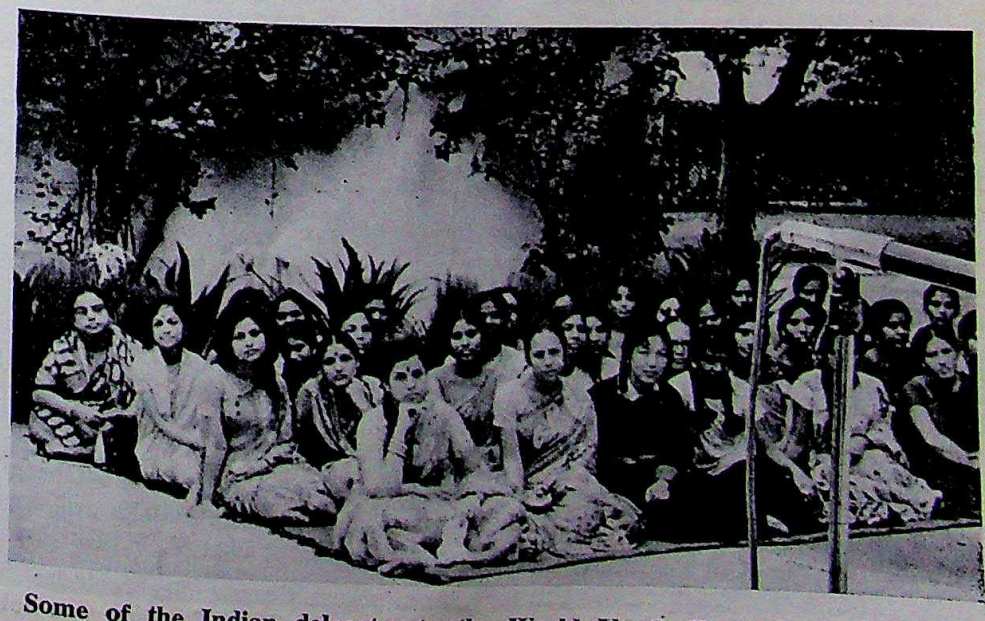
A small engineering firm in Ichalkaranji, which on Independence Day gave a scooter to each of its 240 employees, hopes to better this record by providing each worker with a car in a few years.

Distributing the scooters, Mr Mukundrao Kirloskar, editor of Kirloskar magazines, commended the example of this small-scale unit to other industrial and commercial enterprises, including those in the public sector. Mr D. B. Kadam, M.P., presided.

Fuel Instruments and Engineering is an exemplary unit. The average earning of an employee is Rs 1.025 a month. Many workers get incentives to the tune of Rs 300 to Rs 500 a month. The minimum monthly earning of a worker is about Rs 750.

A peculiarity of its staff structure is that there are no categories. An engineer goes to the machine when his services are required. Others also follow the same practice according to job requirements.

There are neither peons nor messengers. A vistor is served with tea by any of the employees or by the director himself.



Some of the Indian delegates to the World Youth Festival held at East Berlin during July-August.

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The director, Mr P. D. Kulkarni, is the recipient of many awards for import substitution and export promotion.

Sweeper in this firm gets Rs. 500

A sweeper, the lowest-paid employee in the Sankey division of the Guest Keen Williams company in Bombay, will get Rs 500 with retrospective effect from January 1.

An office peon has been fixed in the grade of Rs 509 to Rs 645, while junior clerk will be in the grade of 700 to 990. This is in addition to the 20 per cent bonus a year.

An agreement to this effect has been signed between Dr Datta Samant, Congress M.L.A., and Mr Rajni Patel, representing the Sankey employees' union, and Mr D. J. Mistry and Mr P. B. Kulkarni on behalf of the company.

Nearly 1,800 workers in the Sankey division will receive before the Ganapati festival Rs 16 lakhs as arrears of the rise in wages and dearness allowance.

As a result of the agreement the D.A. has gone up from Rs 60 to Rs 225 and the basic pay from Rs 7 to Rs 72 The minimum D.A. to a worker will be Rs 390.

The employees earning more than Rs. 500 will receive medical aid of Rs 300 a year.

Thief was a monkey

The notorious cat burglar of Palton Road has turned out to be a monkey.

For more than two months, residents of the area have been the victims of daring daylight thefts. The thief, or thieves, entered locked rooms, removed cash and the most expensive of goods, ate up all the food in the house, and disappeared.

On Sunday, Syed Rustom, a watchman at the Moriswala Musafirkhana, trapped the "thieves" red-handed—they were a pair of well-trained monkeys.

The monkeys knew exactly what was wanted. They would remove currency notes from wallets and leave the wallets behind. They would steal expensive fountain pens and watches, but they would ignore glass bangles and other tinsel with little resale value.

After ransacking a place, they would eat whatever food was left behind. The loot, it is suspected, went to their master.

One of the monkeys has escaped. But the other was sitting in chains and looking very sad. Rustom had bought him food from the market and was feeding him.

Said Rustom: "He may be a thief, but it is my duty to look after him."

The choosy thieves

Vegetable oil is so scarce in the capital that thieves have taken to stealing it.

The police said that thieves who broke into a house took away only a four-kg. tin of vegetable oil.

"The oil was stolen perhaps because it is a scarce commodity," a police officer said.

Martyr's ashes to be brought from U.K.

The ashes of Udham Singh, the martyr, who shot a former British Governor of Punjab, Sir Michael O'Dwyer, in March, 1940, will be brought to India shortly, the Punjab chief minister, Mr Zail Singh, announced.

Addressing a national convention of freedom fighters here, he stated that he would shortly visit Britain with a close relative of Udham Singh to bring the ashes.

Udham Singh was executed in Britain in 1940, after he had killed Sir Michael O'Dwyer at the Caxton Hall in London in retaliation for the Jallianwala Bagh massacre of 1919.

Laccadives re-named

It was a day of "nam samskaran" in the Rajya Sabha.

The house put the final touch to the new names for Mysore and the Union territory of Laccadive

The mountaineers of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police who successfully scaled Saser Kangri peak in Ladakh and Panch Chali in Kumaon Himalayas called on the President Shri V. V. Giri, in New Delhi on July 20, 1973.

Photo shows Commander Joginder Singh, the leader of the expedition presenting the National flag that was hoisted on the Saser Kangri peak on June 6 to Shri Giri.

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Minicoy and Amindivi islands.

The Union territory will be known as "Lakshadweep." The criterion in renaming it according to the minister of state, Mr K. C. Pant, was "the wishes and aspirations of the people."

Some members suggested that a strong naval base could be developed in the islands, particularly in view of the current developments in the region. Others drew the government's attention to the possibility of developing some of the islands into a tourist centre.

Mr Pant told them that a study had already been made on the possibility of developing the islands as tourist centres.

Poona TV relay station gets good reception

Television came to Poona today. 'Clear reception' of Bombay programmes was recorded by the relay tower atop the 310-metre Sinhgad fort, 25 kilometres from here.

The performance of the centre was demonstrated to the chief engineer of All India Radio, Mr Y. Venkataramiah.

Surcharge on shipments

A ten-per cent surcharge on shipments to and from Bombay will be levied on vessels loading at individual ports from August 20, it has been notified by the Karmahom-U.K. Conference and Karmahom Continental Conference, governing liner trade among India, U.S.A., U.K. and the Continent.

The surcharge follows the delays in turnround at the Bombay port, a conference press release stated.

'Last Tango,' not more ration

While students elsewhere in Kerala are agitating for a 12-ounce ration and free gruel centres in schools, their counterparts in the government law college are demanding the screening of uncensored foreign movies, especially "The Last Tango in Paris," an erotic film.

These students, who boycotted classes, demonstrated in front of the collectorate and submitted a memorandum to the collector demanding the abolition of the film censor board, a 60-per cent concession to students in theatres and the scrapping of the entertainment tax. They pointed out that students in Punjab and Arunachal Pradesh were allowed a 65-per cent concession in cinema theatres.

The memorandum said the agitation would be intensified if the demands were not met.

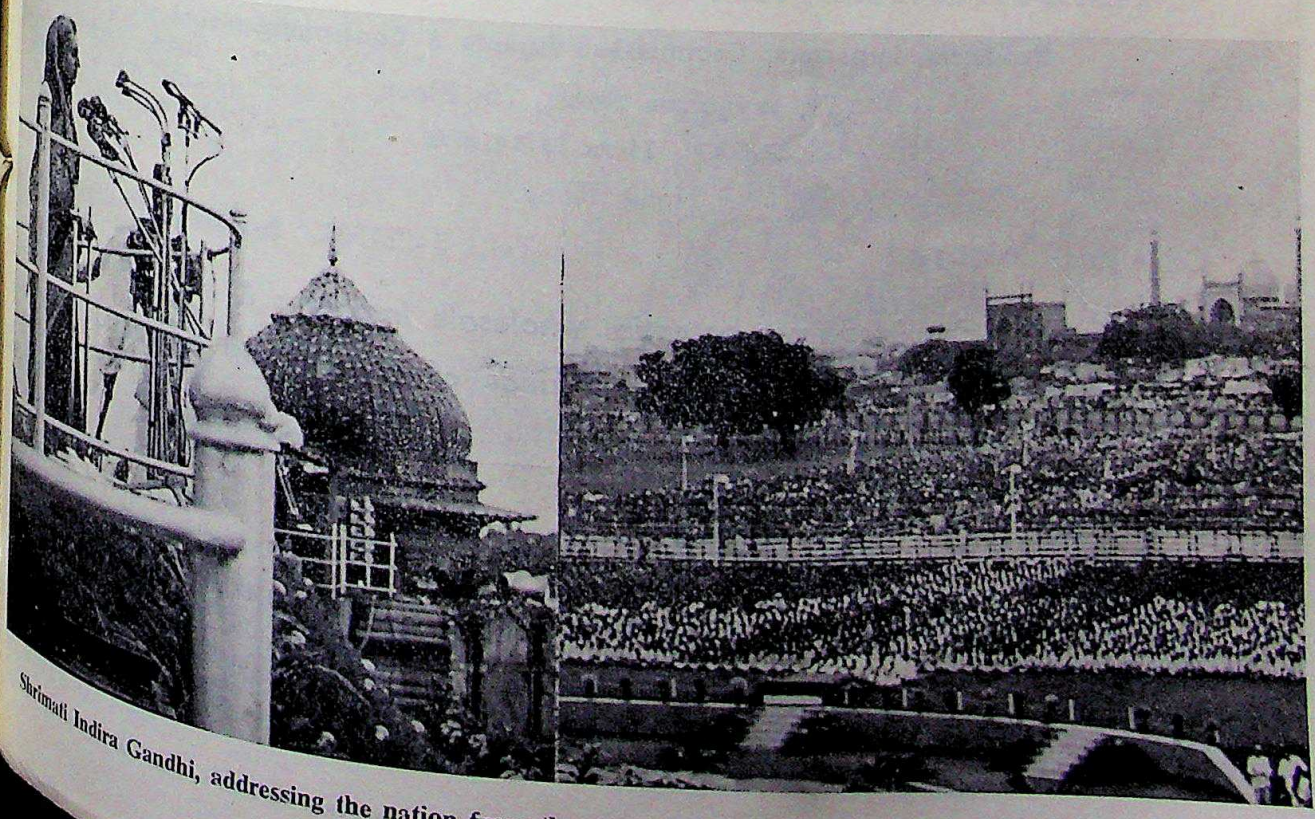
Sir Michael Walker is new UK envoy

Sir Michael Walker has been nominated the British high commissioner in India.

Born in 1916, Sir Michael joined the British forces in 1939. He served as counsellor in the British missions in Calcutta and Delhi from 1952 to 1955.

At present he is the permanent secretary of the overseas development administration, foreign and commonwealth office, London.

Address to the Nation



Shrimati Indira Gandhi, addressing the nation from the ramparts of the Red Fort on Wednesday, August 15, 1973.

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Letters to the editor

Call for help

Sir,

A Sindhi Hindu patient is suffering from T.B. Both lungs are affected. He had diarrhoea and swelling of feet. He was languishing at Kalyan. The sputum was positive. He was admitted in Radhibai Watumull Sanatorium on 9.9.1972. Within three months he gained 28 lbs.

You can see how this patient of advanced T.B. improved on account of proper treatment at our Sanatorium. Many such Sindhi patients are lying at Kalyan Camp, Chembur and other places. The cost of new drugs is very high. I appeal to you to help up with finances to enable us give new drugs to these patients. One single new drug ETHAMBUTOL costs Rs 108/- per month per patient. Another drug REMACTANE costs Rs 2000/- by the Gandhi Sewa Mandal. Kindly send donations for other patients needing such help.

Gandhi Sewa Mandal
15 Landsdown Road,
Bombay.

Cleveland communication

Sir,

I have been receiving your magazine for sometime and have enjoyed it very much. You are correct in expanding your scope so as to include Indian activities all over the world.

This is a small consulate which includes only myself as Honorary Consul but there are several hundred Indians in this community who do hold events from time to time. I should be glad to send you information about them.

George P. Bickford
Honorary Counsul of India.

Cleveland
U.S.A.

Indians in Yugoslavia

Sir,

There is no permanently settled Indian community in this country. The small Indian community is made up largely of Indian Embassy personnel, some Indian students who come here on Cultural Exchange and a few representatives of Indian firms. Therefore, there is hardly any function organised as such by the local Indian community as one finds in countries where the community is large. However we shall send you photographs and press releases of any important events which take place.

We appreciate your interest in the Indian community in Yugoslavia.

A. C. Sekhar.

Belgrade.

"What time do they have to go to bed and what time do they positively have to go to bed?"

Courtesy: The Indian Express.

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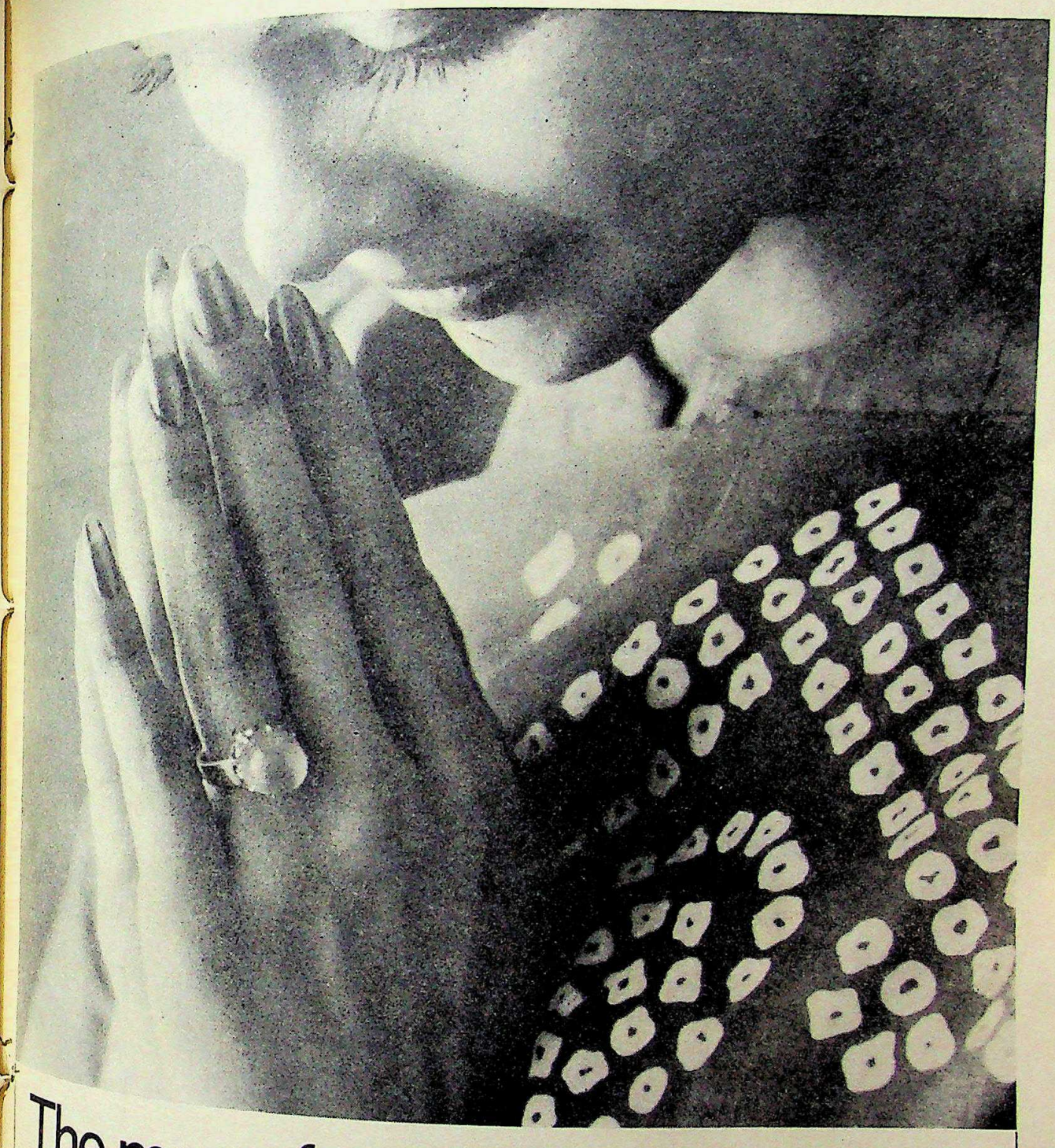

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the indian

The voice of 10 million overseas Indians

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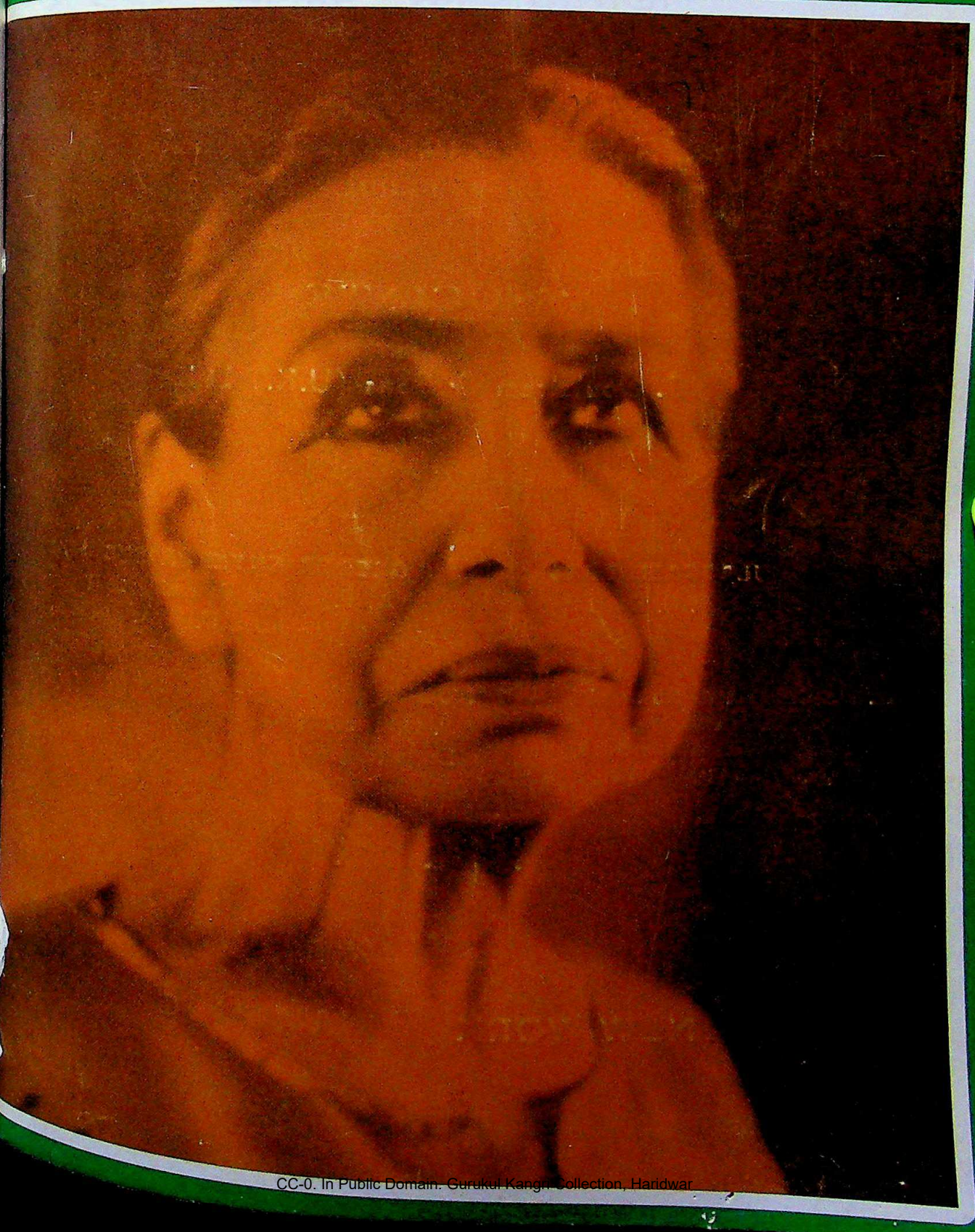

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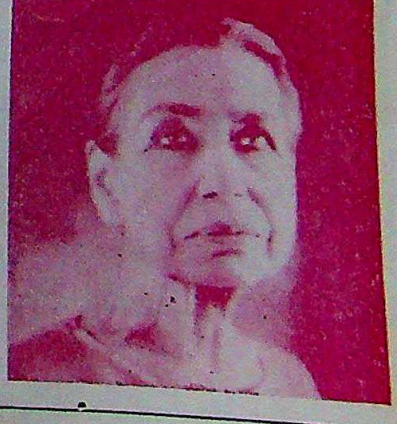

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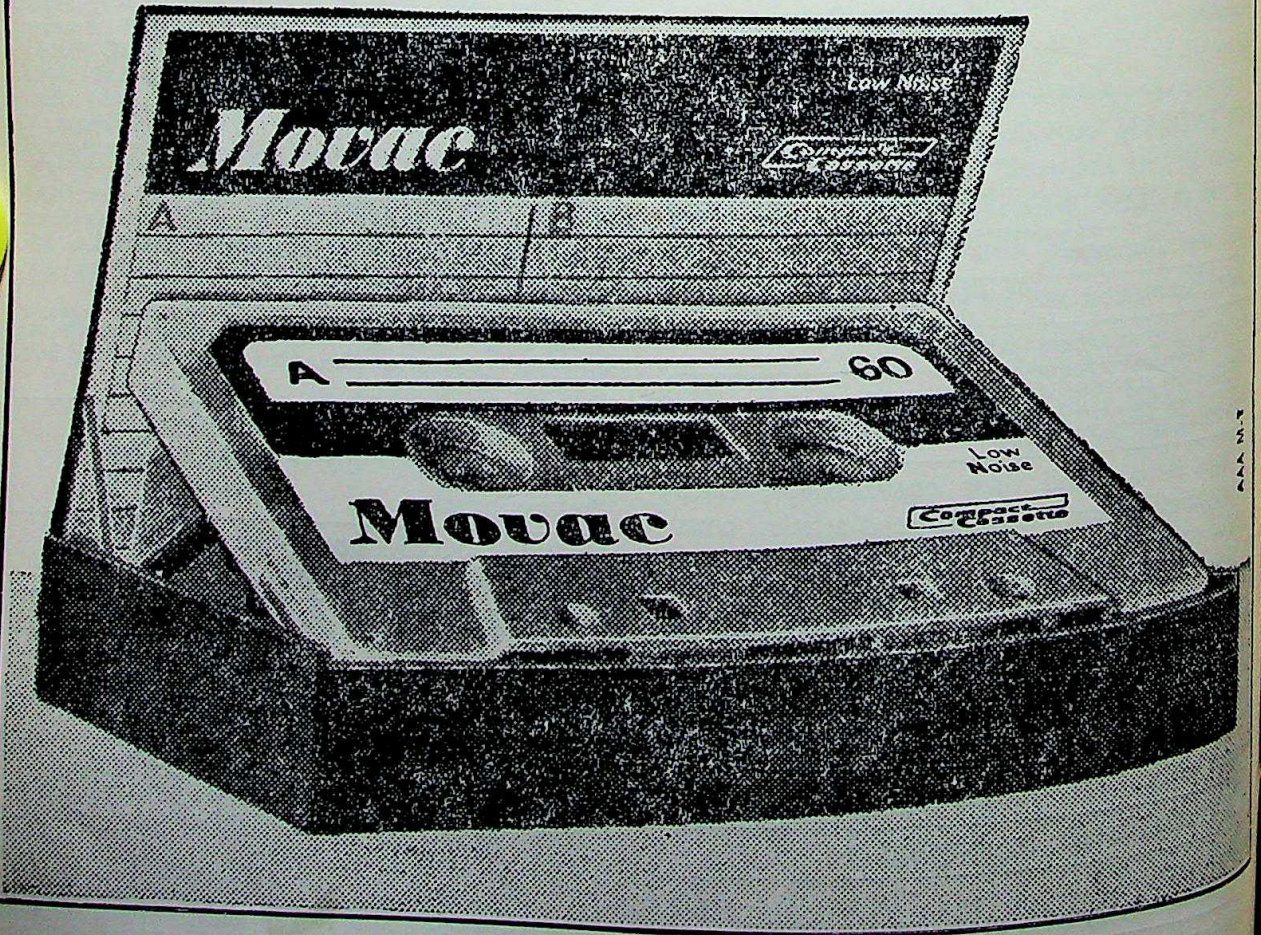

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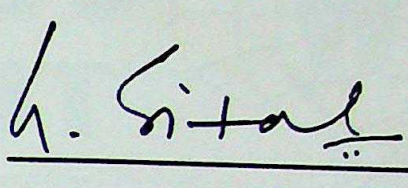
Samaiki



The Image Builders

I recall having conveyed through this column a message from the Prime Minister, Mrs Indira Gandhi, asking our readers to be the image builders of India. Several readers wrote back saying that the Indian officials on foreign tours should also act as the country's image builders, and minimally they should spend their prime time on business that took them abroad.

I am happy to have met recently one Indian official who was totally devoted to work he does in India and to work that brought him to Japan and Hong Kong. I refer to Dr Ram K. Vepa, Director of the Electronics Department of the Indian Government. After attending a conference in Japan, Dr Vepa spent a few days in Hong Kong whose electronics industry is reaching out to all parts of the world. He made extensive study of the local industry, met leading manufacturers many of whom are Indians and tried to convince them to buy from India, export Indian electronics and to set up enterprises in India. He emphasized that though the Indian electronics was a young industry, yet its exports already exceeded US$10 million a year and expected to go up five times within a few years. India was rich in raw material, skilled man-power, sophisticated machinery and other infrastructure. It had abundant potential for electronics industry.

Another type of image builders is our columnist Prof. K. N. Vaid who left a very lucrative and prestigeous assignment abroad and returned to India recently to join in country's efforts to march ahead faster, Prof. Vaid enjoys vast prestige abroad, particularly amongst the Indian communities in Asia. How I wish other professionals to do likewise.

It is persons like Vepa & Vaid who can successfully bring together a union of Indian industry and the Overseas Indians can create a climate of confidence amongst Overseas Indians and help in developing a result centred policy to promote manufacture and export of Indian electronics.

Responding to the Prime Minister's call, I humbly suggest her to send out persons like Vepa and Vaid to talk to us: to explain Indian policies abroad. They are the image builders of modern India—the image that we must project correctly and vigorously amongst the people of their countries as well as the Overseas Indians.

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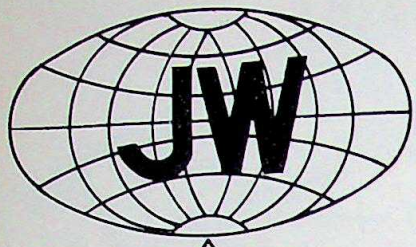

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Viewpoint

K. N. Vaid

Sons of £s

The Sunday Times of London recently carried an article on Punjabi poets in England. Punjabis—Sikhs and others—have migrated to the U.K. in large numbers and their poetry of the everyday life as well as problems of day to day living has gone with them. Several punjabi dailies and weeklies are published from the country of *Lat Saabs*. Mohinder Khera of Slough, Nirmal Singh Mahi of Southall, and Joginder Singh Shamsher are as popular in U.K. as Amrita Pritam in India. The Punjabi poems from England are full of pathos, though they do not in quality that sets toes tapping and elbows jerking. Back on the Punjab, the poet still sings of the tomato red face of six footer Sardarji come dancing like a peacock and of the dove-eyed belle with willowy midrif and supple body in tight shirt. She winks, puts off the lamp with her dupatta and leaves him in darkness to his imagination. Characters and quality of poems is as rustic as ever. The story is different over there in *Vilayat*. Lok at this one, Sardarni says to her lord:

"Your face is pale, your golden body wasted. What will we do with all the money you earn at night?"

To this, her man replies:

"When we go abroad we have to be greedy for work. Only with money can we survive."

Punjabi poets in U.K. talk all the time about "money culture" overtime and night work. The latest to depict this life was Jamila Shakil in her novel "The Immigrant" which is reported to be theme of a new film. Life, alas, takes a heavy toll. These happy-go-lucky, rustic and hard working children of the golden land of five rivers have become sons of the £ in a foreign land. That they have the courage to portray the misery of their own lives and laugh away problems is a measure of the human quality which is not lost—not as yet.

Amritsar T. V.

Amritsar is less than 40 miles away from Lahore. Last month, India put Amritsar T.V. station on the air. In Lahore, there was a stampede for T. V. antennas and traffic jams took place as people flocked to T. V. shops to view Indian tamasha. Pakistan Government had to issue a warning to people not to tune in Amritsar. The Pakistan Times, Nawa-i-waqt, Mashriq and other newspapers wrote editorials condemning the Indian Government for setting up a T.V. station so near the Pakistani borders and called upon Pakistanis to be patriotic and not tune in Amritsar. To this the people of Pakistan reacted sharply and news papers have been full of "Letters to editor" on the subject. Letter writers complained that Pakistan T.V. "has not progressed beyond foolish shows and lopsided production of persons in power. Programmes portray vulgarity as people's culture and sob stuff as drama."

People in India often complain of the poor quality of their T.V. programmes. The Pakistani reaction is a compliment, if nothing else. But more than that, Pakistani reaction to Indian T.V. is an expression of a people to know more about others across the border. Afterall, people in Indian Punjab also tune in Lahore T.V. and Bombayites do view Karachi at late evenings on clear nights. Also Indian T.V. puts out good Indian films which is a draw in Pakistan. Media is a great educating and integrating force. We hope there are more and powerful T.V. studios on both sides of the border so that people across the border can get to know one-another better. Knowledge and familiarity are amongst the strongest forces for peace and good will and these forces need to be strengthened.

The Mother

The Holy Mother of Pondicherry Ashram left for her heavenly abode last month. Her body was immersed in the upper chamber of Maharishi Arobindu's Samadhi. Prayers were held all over India to mommemorate the occasion. She was 96.

For over 25 years she presided over the vast Ashram that was built by one of the greatest rishis for modern Indian Shri Arobindu. Under her stewardship, the Ashram made great strides in many new directions; education, agriculture, town planning, publications are only few of them. She extended the exclusiveness of the Ashram and opened it up to common people who could go

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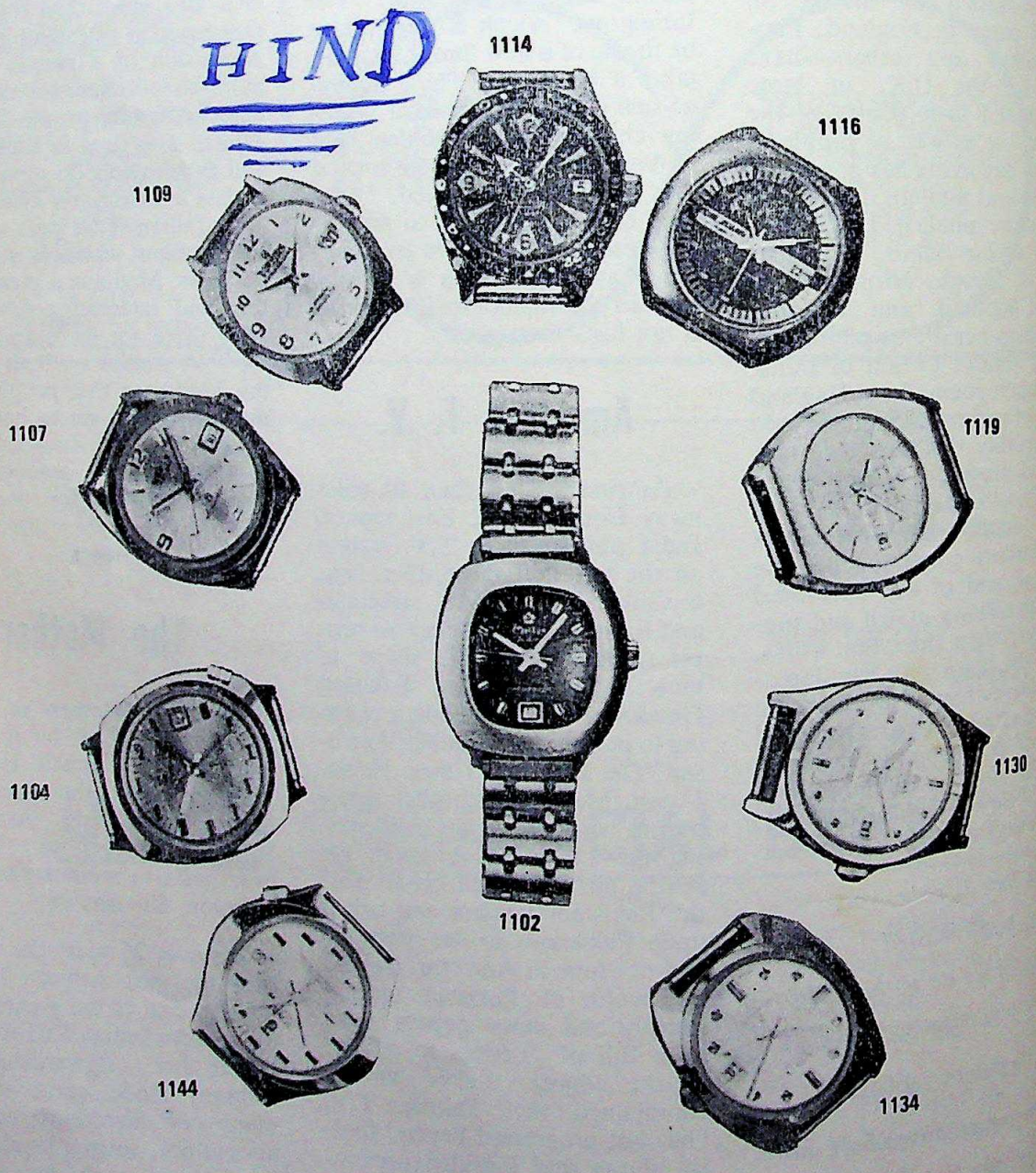

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there and join in the efforts to experiment and innovate in whatever direction they felt like. The Ashram school is a great experiment in educational technology and in social integration. The Ashram farms opened up new vistas in horticulture and cooperation. The new town-Auroville-is one of the greatest experiments in building a real international town. The Mother did all this — and also kept up the spiritual beacon alight. She is worshipped by her followers, most of whom are intellectuals and professionals.

The Mother was a French lady who came to learn and serve at the feet of the Master nearly 50 years ago. She was one of the disciples but rose to inherit the mantle of the Master.

She used to give Darshanas once a while and people flocked to Pondicherry from all over the world on the appointed day. I was one of such people — once long time back. I travelled for 3 days and stood in a long queue in front of her door. It was early morning of a Poonam day. The queue moved slowly—very slowly. We were told to enter the room and file past her. My turn came shortly after 11 a.m. I entered the room. It was dimly lit. Smell of Chandan was all around. There was a silk clad platform and She sat on it. I remember to have seen only two bright eyes and forehead. As I filed past, a hand touched my head and an electric wave passed through my body—moving from head to feet. I was dazed and walked out of the room. The news that the Mother blessed me and touched me had already one around. The crowd converged on me, everyone desiring to touch me. They were so many of them, they tore away my shirt into bits, each person trying to grab a piece as memento. Alas, I was left with nothing. Some Ashramites rescued me, took me inside and gave me food. After resting a while, I joined the rest of my student group who waited for me and we set on our journey homeward. I do not claim to be a religious person, though I am not areligious. But Her touch is with me. I can still feel it. If there ever is a supernatural power, Her Touch was it.

Ring out the old

It is the year 1999. My children who are parents by now are sitting with their own children after a particularly good meal and the family is talking of the days gone by. The mother remembers the year 1973. "Oh, it was such a nice year. Everything was so cheap. You could buy a chocolate bar for just 30 cents in Hong Kong and for only one rupee in India. Rice was only 2 dollars a catty. And in Bombay you could buy a real good Basmati rice for Rs. 5 a kilo. And imagine petrol was only Rs. 2.90 a litre in Bombay. The whole family could have a candle light dinner at a top restaurant for about 20 U.S. Everything was so cheap and plentiful. Life was so good." Eyes of the little one pop out in wonder and excitement and she asks, "Mama, what was your school like." "V.. very different, each class had its own teacher instead of the monitered lessons of today. We took buses to school. We even did our calculations ourselves, calculators were used only in offices". The child asks, "Could you work out 15x12 yourself." "Certainly," says the mother with pride. "Oh, you must be a brilliant child, mother," the child replies admiringly.

The father is not to be left out from recalling the past. He says, "Children, you are lucky to be born and living in such peaceful times. In my younger days, people and nations fought for no reason at all. Arabs and jews went to war the fourth time in 1973 because they did not like each others names. Sometimes neighbours simply killed eachother because one was a Hindu and other a Muslim." The 12 year old asked, "But daddy, what does a Hindu mean?" "It is difficult to explain son. It is something that I was born into and somehow did not pass it on to you." "How barbaric", the boy said disgustingly. "Tell us something enjoyable about 1973 daddy!"

There was a man called NIXON who ruled in America. He bugged some phones and taped his visitors. The people got angry. They held a Watergate trial and threw him out. The boy was amused. "In your days you must all be simpletons. Bugs, tapes, and calculators are my school kit but no one asks me to quit." The father continued, "and there was a lady called Mrs. Gandhi who ruled in India." "Was she pretty", asked the little girl. "Very pretty", replied her father. She was also very powerful. After several years popularity, her people began to like her less because in 1973, they had less money to buy things that got too expensive and too few and had to be bought under the table." "How do you buy under the table, daddy," asked the boy, "that would be fun." "Hush", said the mother, little children are not supposed to know these things."

"Well, that was the year 1973 seen after 25 years from today. Busybees all around the world will fill dozens of pages in evaluating events of the year. Nothing is good or bad in itself, it depends on the context in which we see things. In the context of time alone, the year 1973 should look not so expensive, too barbaric, somewhat simplistic, but on the whole not unpleasant.

Let us ring out the old and ring in the new. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you all. Let us pray for peace on earth, good will amongst men and happiness and prosperity for everyone.

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She was only 16 and not yet out of school, but she was literally flying into a marriage with a man she had never seen. For she was to wed, settle in, obtain British citizenship and pioneer the transmigration of her family to U.K.

Bride by Boeing

by

Gorgonzola

It happened just a few months ago, on a Delhi-London flight. Even as the aircraft taxied out on to the runway, it was obvious that all was not well with the young bride travelling unaccompanied. That she was a bride was immediately apparent — ornate red sari, head downcast, veil drawn across modestly, first blush, bejewelled affluence. That the bride whimpered was in harmony with the circumstance of leave taking. That she travelled unescorted provoked thought.

The Boeing was still climbing when a stewardess appeared on the scene proferring an elaborate card listing the free booze and tuck. The bride declined with a tremulous "No thank you", dabbing her tear-stained cheeks with a frail 'kerchief' edged in lace.

Conversation—with the matronly lady occupying the seat alongside—was inevitable. Between the sniffles and the muted sobs, the story unfurled.

She was on her way to London to marry a man she had never seen. She had gazed upon his photograph—a touched-up close-up of a tolerably good looking Sikh in the late 20's, moustache turned to points, full beared held in place by a chin-strap, turban high and to the side. She had been informed that he was a top drawer Jullundur, earning approximately £1,500 annually. She was to be received at the airport —she blanched at the thought— by the marriage party, the groom wearing multiple garlands, as if he needed indentifying! Thence to the nearest gurdwara, and on to the nuptial festivities.

As a Hindu bride, she was totally committed to making the most of her wedded life, but she despaired at being despatched to a foreign continent on a blind match. A 16, she was still attending school, not nearly ripe for entering into marriage. She was travelling on false papers — her age had been stepped up to 18 — to circumvent possible strictures imposed on unaccompanied minor immigrants. She was being rushed into this union with due deliberation: She was to wed, settle in, obtain British citizenship and pioneer the transmigration of her family to the United Kingdom.

Her tears spent, she relapsed into silence, and appeared to sleep out the rest of the journey; till the call for fastening of seatbelts over the air terminal at Heathrow.

She hung back as the passengers alighted from the aircraft. Where was the excitement of breaking new ground? . . . . of moving into the swing of London traffic? Where-o-where were the pulsating heartpangs of confronting for the first time her husband of tonight? Instead, here she was cringing by the wall of the aircraft, a trembling saffron-stained palm clasped about her right wrist, her fingers working around the steel band that proclaimed her religious affinities. She quivered from nape to spinal base, broke out in gooseskin . . . and steeled herself.

Her fingers reached into her handbag, extracting a vanity case. She fixed her make-up, with special attention given to the eyes. Zeroing in on what was to be the experience of her lifetime, she still had to contend with the British Customs—she was taking in three travelling cases, for the most part crammed with presents for her bridegroom, her in-laws.

She hitched travelling bag and camera over her shoulder, raised her head high, and made her way down the passage between the empty seats. At the top of the mobile stairway, she paused. London had at least arranged a little sunshine for her arrival. She arched an eyebrow and permitted the beginnings of a smile to form at the corners of her mouth — like a seasoned 18 year old put it across, she hoped. Her eyes were still moist, reflecting sun-beams. She was beautiful, beautiful—first class export commodity, even though not earning foreign exchange.

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SPOTLIGHT ON OVERSEAS INDIANS

Asha—financial vizard.

Asha Wagle

Asha, hit the headlines when she was appointed Manager of Investment Portfolio by Rothschild, the international finance firm, the first woman to be appointed to such a post by it. This means that Asha will be dealing with the brokers on the London Stock Exchange, traditionally the preserve of the male.

The 14 women who made history when they took the floor at the London Stock Exchange have no truck with the Women's Lib movement. "We got there not by burning bras nor by shoutng slogans; we made it through painstaking hard work," *Newsweek* reports them as saying.

Reared in a family noted for its achievements in fields that range from banking to fashion and fabrics, Asha Wagle displayed qualities of independence, tenacity and perseverence since the age of three.

Mathematics was her forte, even when in school in Bombay. She went on to complete her school education in England, at Beneden in Kent, and then graduated from Oxford with a degree in Economics, specialising in Finance and Banking.

As one of the few women traversing the paths of complex international finance, and the only Indian woman at that, Asha has few complaints about the treatment meted out to her by the males.

She lives in a tastefully decorated flat in London. On her trips to India, she collects items for the flat, which is stamped, like its owner, by the Indian touch. For, in spite of having lived abroad so long, and even though Asha is such an independent individual, her ties with her family remain strong. She shares a very close relationship with her grandmother, Dhanvanthi Rama Rau, who, incidentally, was the first Kashmiri Brahmin to marry outside her community. In fact, Asha's family for some generations, has been marked by intercommunal and inter-racial marriages.

Vani—In search of love

Vani Ganapathy

With a string of beauty titles to her credit, Vani Ganapathy is still in pursuit of another title.

An exponent of Bharatha Natyam—the art of Indian classical dance—Vani, 20, wants to be acclaimed as a great dancer.

And, endowed with beauty and talent, it looks like this young final year BA student from Bombay will achieve her ambition soon.

Crowned Teen Princess in 1970, she represented India in the International Teen Princess 1970 contest, held in Berlin, where she was runner-up.

In 1972 Vani was selected to represent Bombay in the Miss India—Miss World pageant and again she was runner-up.

Following these, she was offered a number of parts in Hindi films and her first film Pyasi Nadi (Thirsty River) was released recently.

"I will only be in films for the next three to five years and after that, I will concentrate on dancing only," she said.

Mini-dress, pants and mod-gear are her favourite, and in her first film Vani appeared as a modern and outgoing girl in search of true love.

Although Vani would like to get married, she has decided not to think about it for the next five years.

"The man I marry must allow me to continue my dancing career," she said.

Vani and her sister Meera gave a performance at the Victoria Theatre Singapore recently. The proceeds will be given to St Andrew's Mission Hospital and the Society for Aid to the Paralysed. — RANEE GOVINDRAM.

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Short Story

THE PUPIL

A short story by
JULIETTE BANERJEE

The new bride must muster enough colloquial English to be able to make the correct replies at the rising young executive's cocktail circuit . . . To me, then, was assigned the role of catalyst.

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If I had to start at the beginning it would probably be that sickly day in late January, neither warm nor chill, with a spiteful drizzle, when Mrs Dutta, known among an exclusive circle as Mother Earth, sent me a message by one of her waifs. Like her, the note was to the point with none of the hearts and flowers senders of chits are prone to. I was to meet her the next day at three-ish in the afternoon, college parlour. That's all. No hint of whatever the good lady may have had in store for me. And with all the egotism of the very young I believed that she could only want to see me for some furtherance of what was to my benefit. Deep down I was a bit uneasy.

Caught between a perfectly unsatisfactory romance and an equally unsatisfactory job. I was acerbic, snappy and very much on the defensive. Old Mum Earth was as shrewd as a mother awaiting her child's first lie. Facades have a disastrous habit of crumbling when confronted with her angular figure and as angular questions.

For one thing they were direct, for another, she knew all about my little trauma of the winter past. Any pose or act borrowed would be useless. Curiosity, plus a large dollop of reverence for the old girl made me unquestioningly prepare for whatever our meeting was to be on the next day.

"You need the money, don't you?"

I nodded, embarrassment momentarily shelved.

"You need a change of thought too, don't you?"

I glared, albeit feebly.

"Well, that's it then. The job should be interesting. Your pupil is a few years older than you. If you leave off mooning around you might win a friend. Her husband won't be there during the lesson, in case that might bother you, and you'll be getting paid for what you do best. Prattle.

"Don't be intimidated by swish decor, oh yes you are, or fat, suited men. Wear a sari. Don't let anyone browbeat you over what you heard, were the original terms. At Rs. 100 a month, a twice weekly, hour long tuition is a bargain, in this day and time.

"A bus will drop you to the doorstep. Now remember, this is an orthodox locality, so no bell-bottoms, no sleeveless cholis, no trouser-suits, or whatever you call them. A bright, yet demure image of the Female Intellectual, is what you should aim to project."

The lengthy prospectus was not making for a happy feeling, and I was busy creating an entirely different scene in my fertile imagination where I was royally turning down what was fast becoming yet another unsavoury way of earning my bit of jam.

Oh no, I couldn't possibly accept the offer, you see, I only give lessons to handicapped children. Or deaf and dumb children. Or orphans. Or anyone but the wives of rising young executives who want glib, siblings of graduates to accomplish linguistic handstands in less than a month."

By the light of a long ago neutral morning, I surrendered. To a lean bank balance. To dull weekends. And to Mother Earth.

The husband was very much what I had anticipated. Pointed patent leather shoes with an improbable gleam on them. Hair slicked back from a narrow, and what I privately termed Neanderthal forehead. A slow, deliberate way of talking, with an accent that was not familiar in this part of the country. An annoying mannuerism of bringing the strangely broad spatulate, yellowed finger tips of his together to emphasise this or that stipulation. The suit was of some ribbed material fashionable a few years previous to his wearing it.

In short, I did not like him. But I remembered the words of my sage and mentor and kept an attentive face turned towards his droning.

"My wife can read and write in English, so there will not be much trouble."

A longish pause, in which I said nothing. A quick under-the-eyebrow look which would have unnerved me a few days ago. But not now. Forewarned, I refused to translate what this bit of information might have intended to convey. The pause matured. It was what is sometimes referred to as a pregnant one. I persevered and gave the white telephone a comradely look.

Then, "A hundred, for eight times a month." The voice with its oval sounding consonants trailed off, a shade pensive.

"Yes", I remarked succinctly, and continued my rapport with the telephone. Like Alladin's Lamp, I felt once I gave it a friendly rub an obsequious genie would whisk me away to scenes of Holywoodian splendour. Klieg lights, cigar chomping movie moghuls waving contracts at me, cocktail parties . . . my fantasies merged suddenly with what my spanking new employer was saying.

". . . has to attend many functions, cocktail parties . . . So fluency is essential. I feel a month of coaching is more than enough to make up this deficiency."

In spite of the nutritional line of talk, I had managed to piece together the gist of his monologue. The new bride must muster enough colloquial English to be able to make the correct replies at the rising young executive's cocktail circuit. A it stood now, the poor young thing lived on the sideliness of her husband's burgeoning importance. To me, then, was assigned the role of catalyst.

The meeting was drawing to a close and we were both anxious to put a formal end to what was becoming an awkward manipulation of words.

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"She will be waiting for you, then, on Saturday afternoon at four o'clock. You have the address . . . I did give it to Mrs Dutta, your professor, and she assured . . ."

"Yes, I have it, and tell your wife I'll be punctual."

An exchange of quick uncertain smiles, a hint of a badly executed namaste and I was out of that wood panelled kiosk-like office.

It was a mouldy, unprepossessing building. Proud high ceilings indicated a gracious era that had ended decades ago, an illegal crossbreeding between late Georgian, and Gothic, gave the whole edifice a gingerbread effect. Lofty arches and glazed transoms tiredly battled with peeling distemper, soot and "paan" stains. A couple of yelling children, gnarled old women sitting on the stoop, mangy pie-dogs furtively scrambling for food scraps in the gutter, the hypnotic aroma of spicy cooking.

Dubious backdrop for a man on the up and up, however, I pulled a long pallav over a chaste blouse, and climbed two flights of darkish stairs before I came to my door. Unlike the adjacent apartment, the name-plate was a polished brass one, with an ugly spy glass immediately below it. I knocked, she must have been hovering near, for it opened with disconcerting suddeness.

"Good morning. Er . . . I'm the . . ."

A nod, a nervous gesture ushering me into an inner room. Sparse, clean, totally unimaginative. A depressing place in which to begin a new life. Divan pushed against one wall, garish calendar, cut-outs flanking a tall, lovely window. A couple of good rugs placed with mathematical precision in the middle of the floor, a toilet table with plenty of men's hair dressing lotion, and a brand of aftershave that promised the wearer a gain in virility, and, with a concession to feminity, one solitary bottle of cleansing milk. Nothing more. No lipstick, no powder-bowl, no pretty hand mirror. I wondered.

We were to sit at a severe, no-nonsense table that had a pile of paperbacks aranged systematically on one side. A quick examination showed all of them to be salacious bestsellers, a marriage manual, a playboy joke book. I was naive enough to be flustered and hoped by opinion of the man of the house did not show.

"You do understand English, don't you?" I floundered hopelessly.

Yes, she indicated with a charming downward flutter of her lashes.

"Well you could begin by repeating, and then answering to all I will say to you."

I needed audio visual aids. I needed someone to guide me. I needed masses more experience to impart a language that came to me as naturally as my breath. Butt I had Ma Dutta's ghost at my elbow, smirking at my inadequacy. Gritting my teeth, I vowed that some sort of attempt be made and plunged into a relationship that was peculiar as it was unique.

My pupil was not unattractive, but a too wide trembly mouth detracted from a fine bone structure, and a matte complexion. Wheat colour, was the accepted term. An uncompromising hairdo showed elfin ears, a shy personality was revealed by a cautious stammer. Despite her marital status I felt older, even protective.

While the lessons ground out inexorably, we got to know each other through typical girly interests. During the second day with her, the diologue ran along sartorial lines. "What a pretty sari that is. Where did you get it?"

Instead of the painful parroting, she got up abruptly and, childlike, showed me the border's fine block printing. It was not what I had meant but glad of establishing something more than this tenous one of student/teacher, I admired long and volubly. Out from a scratched black tin box came an array of petticoats, dupattas of the finest chiffon saris, a trousseau anyone would be proud of. I was envious and some intuition made her ask hesitantly if I had a prospective husband. Wincing, my bruised vanity not healed as yet, I said no.

My social life revolved around the grim business of making money. The collegiate cocoon had expelled me prematurely into a world which did not concern itself with relating Victorian literature to the anti-novel, nor did child psychiatry facinate the advertising world, part of which I was longing to become. For me there seemed to stretch interminable girls whose English needed an emergency shot in the arm. For all the cocktail parties to which I was never to be invited.

"Please, let's continue with our work, there's not much time." Obediently, irritatingly passive, she fell into the pose of a slow, but plodding, student. So it went on. Sometimes we would mutually tire of the stilted, artificial makebelieve and giggle over the stream of pedestrians under the window. A twitch in someone's neck, a fat man's genial rolling gait would send us into unintelligent gales of hysteria.

She had a quick, sly sense of humour and found out my asinine habit of noting peoples' quirks and odd mannerisms. An aunt who once dropped in during our class was mimed unmercifully after she had departed. I was amazed at an accurate sense of timing and keenness in ferreting the special foible that set apart the victim.

Invitably, our vocabulary was curtailed, but we got through to each other competently enough. I'm afraid polite party patter was coming through in unsatisfactory dribbles. Neither of us was inclined for the debut into which she was to be soon initiated.

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In desperation I began setting her written exercises that contained a fairish amount of the things she might be expected to mouth. She did the homework regularly, but with an apathy that was defeating. I stopped after I realized she learnt sentences by heart without understanding them at all.

My next inspiration was films. She was a movie buff. I simulated interest in the plots and intrigues of all those gaudy posters that hit the senses and asked her to tell me, blow by blow, how things turned out. Jackpot! Her inhibitions melted, syntax flowed sweetly, and the whole dreary chore metamorphosed into an hour's escape from the nagging worry of becoming a polished society lady.

Elated, I kept my fingers crossed and hoped that the transformation would last through the ordinary jargon of the newly rich. A few days and several enthralling stories later, I tentatively suggested we return to our former conversations. The ploy failed. Hopelessly. Again there were the gauche stumblings, the glaring grammatical trip-ups. I knew the remaining fortnight would not remedy the situation.

"I am bad?" she queried slowly.

"You'll improve. Don't give up." Even to myself the trite assurance was unconvincing.

When I was leaving that day she asked me if I wished to meet her husband. I was thirsty after the wrestle with words. Fine, I said, I'd like that too. Then I went down to the congested pavement below and, bidding convention goodbye, I enjoyed the tart explosion of a cold coke on my parched palate with the jostling crowd all around.

He stood somewhat uncannily in the middle of one of the rugs holding a shoe brush in one hand and his shoe in the other. When I entered, he looked at the shoe, slowly put it down and proceeded to fit it on with a plastic shoe horn his firm were manufacturing. It did not occur to him that he looked a trifle ludicrous. The wife was nowhere in sight.

"Good morning." The shoe gave in and slid on, I waited.

'My wife tells me she is not progressive." I let the malapropism pass.

"No." Bluntly, straight from my call-a-spade shoulder.

"But is not a month sufficient to give her a few basic . . . you told me you were able."

"I did not tell you anything like that. 'Ive tried, but your wife has not been taught certain fundamentals . . ." It was a disloyalty to a trust, a letting down of someone who had laughed with me. I felt small, petty.

"Well, there's nothing more, is there? Yes, I was forgetting."

Crudely, a crumpled note was thrust at me. Holding it with a crooked finger and thumb, I snapped my purse shut on the dirty bit of paper that had such power to demean, to crush.

"Your wife . . . I'd like to wish her."

"She's out at my mother's. I'll tell her."

He stared at me accusingly and blurted out, "She needs someone older."

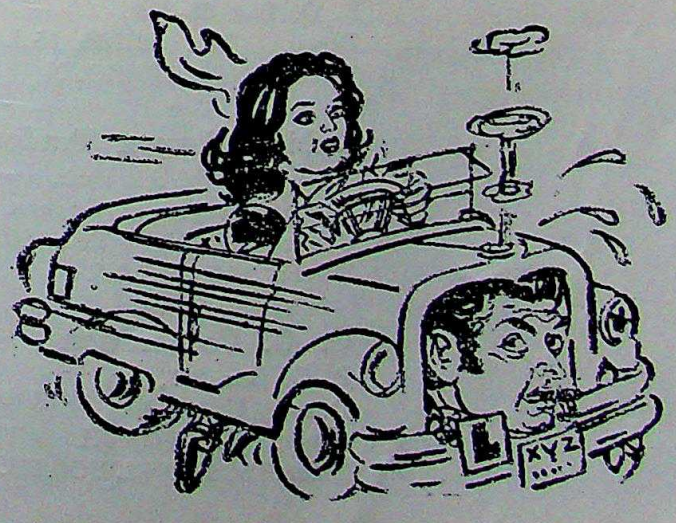
And wiser, I thought as I swiftly turned and made my way for the last time down the fake Georgian landing.

I wondered fleetingly where the shy fawn-like friend of mine was. The kitchen sounds that usually accompanied my departure and arrival were depressingly silent. No singing of the tap water on the plastic bucket, none of the bubbling cauldron music she would make. Was she in some finishing school, a crash course in cocktail culture?

I hoped not. The stagnant loneliness might be stirred by the chitterings of a brash new breed of brides-to-be. Tall, fair, very aryan, in all probability convent-educated. She would not survive. The husband would chastise her. It was a sobering thought.

No, she would not make the grade at any cocktail for some time, I wryly concluded. Then, abruptly tiring of the muddle, I shook myself free of the dingy, avaricious ordour of the place, and with the callousness of 18 years and a bit, discovered I didn't really care at all.

Marriage is like a driving licence, it gives a woman the right to drive a man.



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Holiday & Travel

Goa - the Hawaii of India

Goa has something for everybody: food for the gourmet, liquor for the "thirsty"; scenery for nature-lovers, beaches for swimmers and bathers, and temples and churches and mosques for the religious-minded.

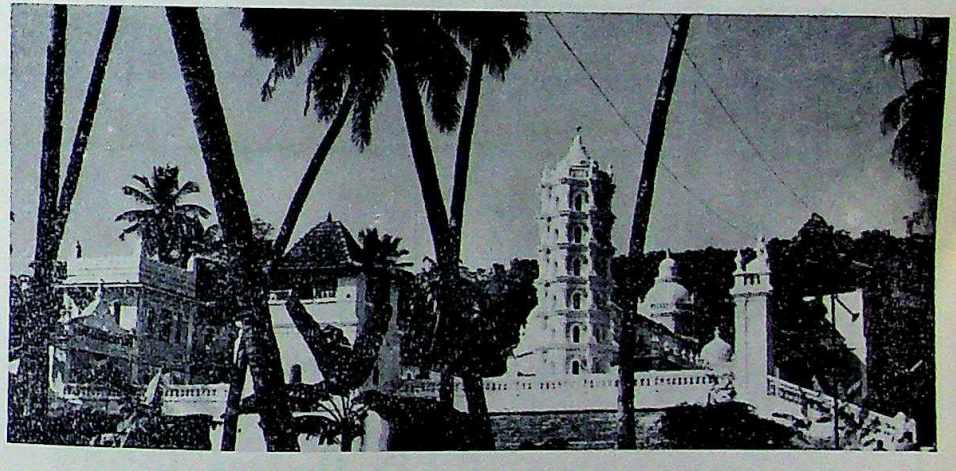
Goa is the land of golden beaches, silk-soft sands, kind rivers, lush greenery and palm groves that never seem to end. It is the land of shy, fullbodied and darkskinned women, and fun-loving and lazy men, of luscious Alphonso mangoes, pine-apple, jackfruit, countless kinds of fish, food and feni.

The memories of a holiday in Goa are hard to forget: the view of the Mandovi river—silent yet so full of life—from the third

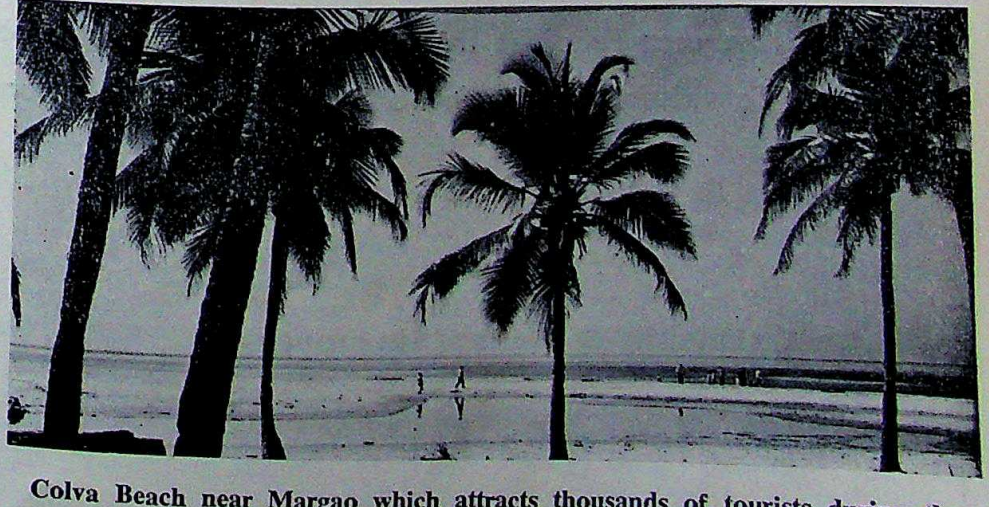
by

S. Venkat Narayan

floor room of your hotel; barges heavy with manganese ore gliding soundlessly under a dark, starless sky; the magnificent view of the river-and-palm grovescape from the top of the Pilar seminary; crossing the Juary river in a ferry sitting in a delux tourist bus on the way to Vasco da Gama; groups of lads swinging and singing with guitars slung across their shoulders along the road to the Calangute beach; scores of boys and girls playing a game called Romeo and Juliet; and



Shri Mangeshi Temple, one of the famous temple in Goa, visited by thousands of devotees and tourists.



Colva Beach near Margao which attracts thousands of tourists during the season.

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hippies who are glad to be photographed and who ask you to send them copies in Australia . . .

Goa is as old as our holy books. Legend has it that Konkan—in which Goa has the pride of place—was created by Lord Parashuram. He shot an arrow into the ocean which receded, leaving behind a cool, fertile strip of land upto the point where the arrow fell.

In course of its 5,000 year history, Goa has experienced many vicissitudes of war, conquest and plunder under the successive rules of the Kadambas, Silhaharas, the Vijayanagar kings, the Muslim rulers and the Portuguese.

Goa is a pleasant land, endowed with abundant natural beauty and strategically situated on the Western seaboard. It spreads over an area of 3,611 square kilometres, at an altitude of 1,022 metres above sea level. Its population is about 8,60,000. Panjim is the capital of the Union Territory of Goa, which also includes Diu and Daman. The area was under Portuguese control for 450 years and was eventually liberated by India in 1961. It now has a woman, Mrs Shashikala Kakodkar, as a chief minister.

One of the main attractions of Goa for tourists is the famous liquor, feni, made of coconut and cashew nuts. Cashew feni is stronger of the two. Liquor is served in all hotels in addition to being sold at every conceivable place. In places like Margao and Mormugao, they sell it in earthen pots by the roadside. Then there are *tavernas* (pubs).

There is a lot to see and enjoy in Goa. Annually, this crescent-shaped tourist resort attracts about a lakh of visitors, nearly one-tenth of them being foreigners. There are about 60 hotels with a capacity of 2,000 beds at the moment. A string of five-star hotels, guest houses and cottages are coming up.

Holiday in Goa

Some Tips to Visitors

SEASON: October to May. December-January-February are cool and pleasent.

How to get there:

AIR: Daily service from Bombay and Cochin to Dabolim airport 21 miles from Panaji.

RAIL: Panaji is not on the railway line, but Margao and Vasco-de-Gama are on the Londa-Vasco sector of the South Central Railway. It is most convenient to detrain at Margao and proceed by bus to Panaji.

BUS: Daily services ply to Betim (on the opposite side of Panaji wharf) from Bombay and Poona while those from Bangalore, Hubli, Belgam and Sadashivgarh (for Karwar) ply to Panaji.

BOAT: Regular fair weather service between Bombay and Panaji operated by Chowgule Steamship Co.

LOCAL TRANSPORT: Conducted tours operated by the Tourist Dept. of the Govt. of Goa, Daman and Diu available to 1) Oil Goa and Temples 2) Guirim, Mapuca and Calangute 3) Pilar Seminary, Cola, Margao, Vasco and Marmugoa port. Charge Rs. 3/50, 4, 6 respectively.

TAXIS, BUS and FERRY SERVICES: Few taxis without meters. Bus and ferry services connect Panaji to all important centres in Goa.

Accommodation:

WESTERN STYLE APPROVED HOTELS:

Panaji
Mandovi Hotel
S. Ac. Rs. 55 to 57, S. Rs. 37 to 39, D. Rs. 62 to 101

Solmar Hotel
S. Ac. Rs. 47.50 to 52.50, D. Ac. Rs. 70 to 75

Vasco-da-Gama
Zuari Hotel
S. Ac. Rs. 65 to 70, D. Ac. Rs. 90 to 95, S. Rs. 30 to 45, D. Rs. 55 to 75

Margoa
Goa Wodland Hotel
S. Rs. 36 to 45, D. Rs. 66 to 80

Neptune Hotel
S. Rs. 13 to 23, D. Rs. 25 to 38 with berakfast

Food is cheap and there's variety, too, including Goan, Chinese and Italian specialities. At the well-maintained Tourist Hostel in Panjim, the menu contains more than 150 items of food!

Colva, Calangute, Mira-Mar, Dona Paula, Baga, Siridao and Morjim are some of the best beaches round the globe. Sound is powder soft, one can go far into the sea and there is fun and gaiety all around. Small wonder that Goa has been described as the "Hawaii of India."

The finest temples are those of Mangesa at Priol, Mhalsa at Mardol, Shanta Durga at Kavlem (Ponda) and of Nagesh at Bandora. See Cathedral and the Church of Bom Jesus in Old Goa are musts for any church lover. There are four mosques, too.

The tourist season in Goa begins in October and lasts till May, excepting March. But the best time is between November and February. The fastest way of getting there is to get to Bombay first and fly down to Dabolim airport, a couple of hours' bus ride away from Panjim. The state tourism department arranges conducted tours to interesting places.

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Kashmir Women's Costumes

by

Asha Dhar

"Women are the same everywhere", said Napolean. They are alike in one respect—in their vanity and their love of personal loveliness. Here, in Kashmir women have a seductive beauty —fair rosy complexion, soft eyes, innocent expression and raven black hair. Highly modest, most unassuming and unsophisticated, Kashmiri women are the finest specimen of fairsex.

Colourful Variety

Few women of the East are more bashful than those of Kashmir. The word *izzat* is often on their lips. And when the older dames talk about *izzat* they deplore those activities of the younger womenfolk wherein they flaunt their physical charms. Their notion of seclusion of women as a hall mark of respectability has, however, undergone a radical change.

Covered from head to feet in a tent-like covering made of cotton or silk material called *burqa,* a rare thing it was to see the face of a woman in days of old. Burqa still forms an outgoing shield for the ladies of a wealthy Muslim household. Now that a change has ensued in the wear of this overall, they lift up the front portion of the veil. Formerly both Hindu and Muslim ladies used to put on the veil. Now Hindu women and most Muslim women of the upper class have dropped its use.

Kashmiris evince a colourful variety in women's costumes, which differs according to the zones and the communities. A gaudy *Chuga* hemmed with a border and hanging in loose folds upto the feet, *Pheran* is still in use among the peasant women. Otherwise, older ladies and women in orthodox families stick to the *pheran.* To put on some smartness, Hindu women tie their waist with a gaily covered belt called *Luhangi.* Loose sleeves of the *pheran* are fashionably decorated with brocade. With this Hindu costume goes the head-dress called *Taranga* tied to a hanging bonnet which falls to the heels from behind. Folds of *Taranga* are made from brightly pressed linen fastened with a few golden pins at the sides. Over the head and ears are patches of muslin embroidered in gold thread. The younger Hindu women have taken to the sari after a reform movement in the thirties.

Pheran is, however, very much in use among Muslim women, but unlike Hindu *Pheran,* theirs is beautifully embroidered in the front. The head-dress that Muslim women wear is peculiar. *Kasaba,* as it is called, has an overhanging pinscarf, that falls gracefully on shoulders, covering plaits on the back. A turban-like, red head-dress, *Kasaba* is held tight by silver pins.

Diversity of costumes is presented by various racial units among Kashmiris. The dress of Gujar women in the hills consists of ample trousers and a full skirted tunic with loose sleeves. The thick veil on the head falls back on the shoulders. The typical close-fitting *churi-dar-pyjama* and a long tunic or a frock is confined to Dogra women of Jammu.

Time has brought an appreciable change in the dress of Kashmiri women. Slowly but impreceptibly they are changing their modes under modern influence. Fashion trends which were quite Kashmiri have taken an oriental slant. The Punjabi dress consisting of smart *salwar* with a tailored tunic and loose *dupata* have become popular as a convenient attire for school and college girls. Few teen-agers have taken to frocks.

Personal Adornment

Kashmiri women generally weave their hair in one plait. School-going girls generally make two plaits in simple form. Muslim women do their hair straight in several plaits. Henna is widely used to varnish nails. Antimony is used for the eyes.

Jewellery, of course, is the main passion of Kashmiri women. There are varieties and designs of jewellery for head, forehead, ears, neck, nose, wrists and fingers. They are either made of silver or gold. Women of Ladakh wear quaint jewellery made of precious stones. The typical ornament that goes with Hindu *Pheran* is the *Dejharoo* (a carved lump of gold kept pending with a silken thread), or, a

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golden chain which passes through the holes of the ears pierced in early childhood. *Dejharoo* is further supported with about half an inch broad golden rail beautifully designed. At the end is a bunch of gold thread called *atharoo*. This rail climbs over the *taranga* on the head. For the adornment of the throat and neck is the *Tulsi* or *chick* and a pendant-like necklace called *Trumuj*. Just below is an ornament called *Chapkal* which lends a most artistic effect to the appearance of Kashmiri women. The hands are adorned with rings and the wrist with *Gunis*, *Band* and *Lacchu*.

Muslim women wear bunches of ear-rings, the weight of which is supported by a silver chain which goes over the bonnet. Their neck ornament is called *Halkband*. Bracelets called Kankan are either golden or silver. Their rings are generally trinkets. The skull caps of Muslim girls are decorated with silver plaits, nails of the tiger or an owl in gold.

The typical Kashmiri footwear is *Pulahroo*—a grass chappal artistically woven. Sandals are worn by the more sophisticated eyes.

Besides all their loveliness and charm, women of Kashmir have a peculiar simplicity of mind and manner. They are very sociable. Good talkers, they are equally good listeners among themselves. Not very tidy and trim in arranging things at home, they love to have enough household articles. They are religious too and frequently go to temples and mosques to offer prayers.

Kashmiri Costume and Jewellery.

Their assistance to menfolk in many occupations is indispensable. They till the land, row boats, sell vegetables, and fish and are excellent milk-women. It is interesting to see them weaving beautiful artistic mats, spinning the yarn, pounding paddy and so on. At most of these occupations Kashmiri women sing folk-songs. And when they dance you see them in their unique colourful costumes.

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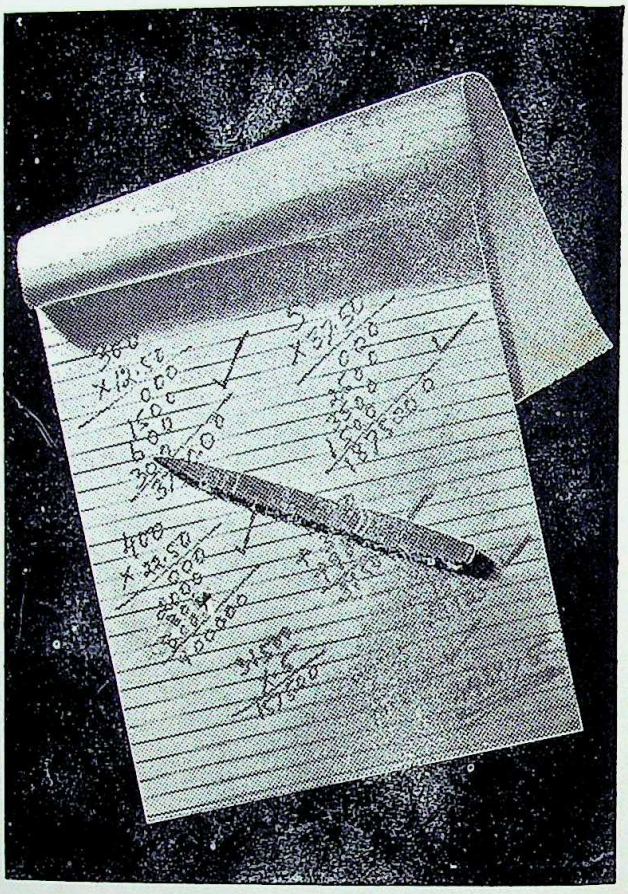

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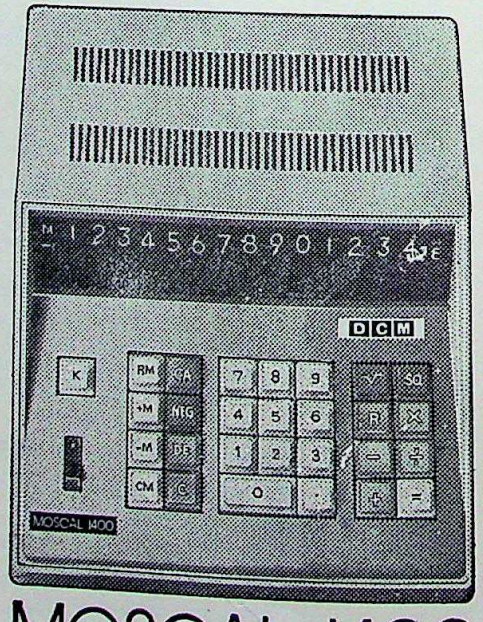

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Reader's Ask

Q. Which is the biggest company in India?

A. Hindustan Steel Ltd., a Government of India enterprise. This company is amongst world's top 100 companies.

Q. Which is the biggest airlines company?

A. Indian Airlines Corporation is the biggest domestic airline in world, considered in terms of passenger miles flown per year. International airliners—one can't say.

Q. Why do youngmen grow long beards?

A. To hide tooth pricks in.

Q. How much money the former Indian Maharajas have kept abroad?

A. Declared accounts include 12.5 million rupees in cash and 85 million rupees in stocks & securities.

Q. Who views both India and Pakistan with equal warmth these days?

A. Smugglers.

Q. Who are Thomas Cook N Co.?

A. Thomas Cook was a British cabinet maker. He set up the first travel agency in the world in 1841 and started conducting organised group tours. Today, the Company handles over 12 million travellers per annum.

Q. What is the difference between western cabaret and Indian mujrah?

A. Cabaret displays what mujrah hides.

Q. What is the basic difference in doing business in India and abroad?

A. India offers an unlimited domestic market for all goods. At home, selling is easy, producing is difficult. Abroad, producing is relatively easy, selling is a problem.

Q. Can you tell us about the Indian?

A. The Indian is a magazine registered in and published from Hong Kong. It is owned by a company of the same name and is a no-profit venture promoted as a service to the community.

Q. How is India Akhand Bharat?

A. India is a unitary country. Provinces have been delegated certain powers by the Centre under the Constitution. Attempt by a province to cede amounts to sedetion. To contrast the situation, America is a federal country. The federal government at Washington DC. has only such powers as are given to it by the states. Technically, a state, say Texas, has the right to cede and become independent. Similar situation obtains in Russia. No Indian state has the right of cession from the motherland.

Pakeezah in Pakistan

At midnight on October 14, 1973, Islamabad T.V. Station showed the Indian film "Pakeezah" in its control room for selected officers and their wives. How did it get the film?

Amritsar T. V. Station in India telecasted this film on September 29. Lahore studio recorded it, showed it to local V.I.P.s and passed it on to Islamabad.

And the same people are asking Pakistanis not to tune in Amritsar T. V. Station.

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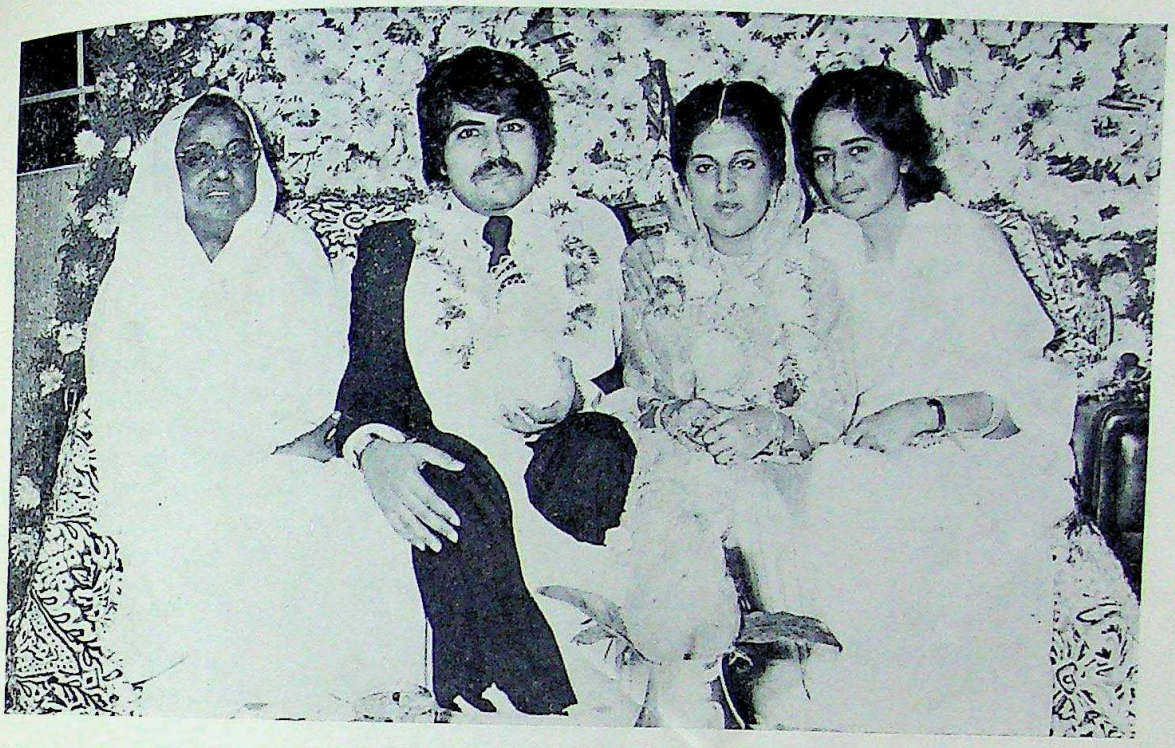
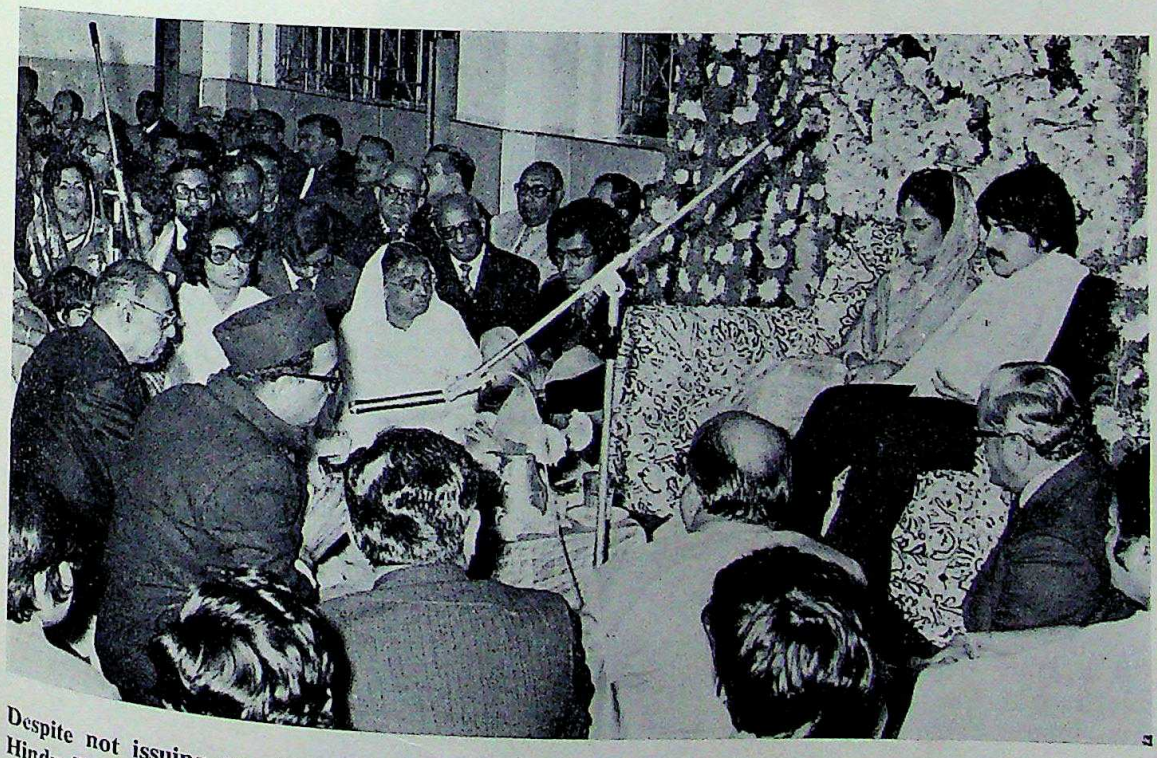
ASHOK—RANI



The recent wedding of Ashok, son of late Mr Bhagwan K. Motwani and Rani, daughter of late Mr Bhagwandas Verhomal united two illustirous Families of Hongkong. Seen above L to R are: Mrs Bhagwanti Bhagwandas, Ashok, Rani and Mrs Janki Bhagwan Motwani.

Wedding ceremony in progress



Despite not issuing any invitation cards the ceremony was attended to full capacity crowd at the Hindu Temple, Happy Valley, Hongkong.

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From Filmland

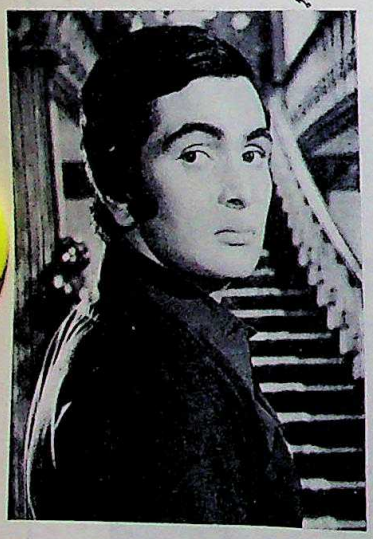
The Kapoor Clan

Raj Kapoor, one of the top-most stars, and a renowned film-maker of India will complete 25 glorious years in the motion picture industry in December. This man has dominated the industry for about two decades from 1948 (Aag) to 1964 (Sangam).

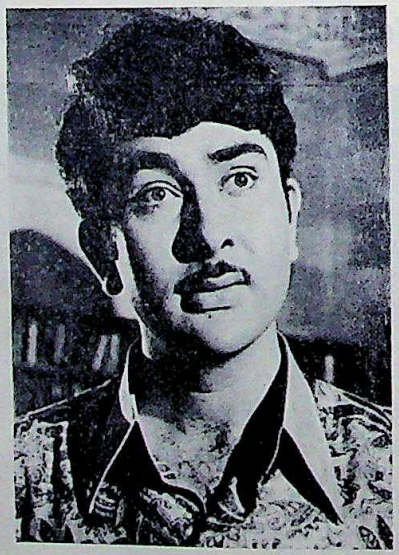
Born to Prithviraj Kapoor on December 14th 1924, Raj started stage acting at an early age with his father. Later he switched over to the silver screen but also continued with the Prithvi Theatres, both as a performer and as an assistant to his father. It was Prithvi Theatres that gave Raj his earliest associates.

In many of his films, Raj Kapoor has depicted in one form or another his experiences of early life. The role of a school teacher played by Simi Garewal in "Mera Naam Joker" reflects his adolescent days when he was in love with a pretty teacher in his school.

Tremendous success, entirely unaided, came fast to Raj Kapoor—such is his talent in acting and film craft. His "Shri 420" was a big box-office success in India as well as overseas. "Jagte Raho" won for him the first Grand Prix at the Karlovy International Film Festival.



Rishi Kapoor in Raj Kapoor's "Bobby."



Randhir Kapoor.

About one hundred acre estate, known as Raj Baug at Loni near Poona is the place where Raj Kapoor loves to spend his non-working days, where he goes to seek inner peace of mind away from the busy humdrum of Bombay filmdom. Raj Kapoor has about fifty films to his credit including those made by him. He has also bagged several film-fare awards. The R.K. Studios have so far produced 13 films, the latest being "Bobby" in which the leading role is played by Dimple (now Mrs Rajesh Khanna) and Rishi Kapoor—his son. His two sons—Randhir and Rishi—are both grown ups and have been well groomed on the sets by Raj himself.

Randhir Kapoor called by his friends and enemies as Dabboo and Dabba respectively resembles his uncle Shammi Kapoor a bit. He is young, enthusiastic, energetic and ambitious. His first actor-director movie "Kal Aaj Aur Kal" brought out his potential as a director. Eldest of the Raj clan, Dabboo may keep the Kapoor "flag" flying high.

Raj Kapoor—the Master of Showman.

Rishi Kappor or Chintu as he is endearingly called is counted as the star of to-morrow. "Bobby" has established him as a leading man. A good actor in the making he is headed for major stardom. His maiden role was in

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CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Tourfilm Festival 1973

The VI International Festival of Films for Promotion of Tourism. 'Tourfilm 73' was inaugurated in Spindleruv Mlyn, a holiday resort about 165 kms. north east of Prague, on the morning of 17th September, 1973. 72 films from 20 countries has been entered in the festival this year. After screening all the films, a special committee of the Tourfilm Festival had divided them into two categories—competitive and non-competitive. India had entered four films. Of these two "India Today" and "Delhi, The City Beautiful" were shown in the competitive section and the films "Bhutan" and "Arunachal" were included in the non-competitive section.

The Jury after evaluating 45 films, awarded the 'Grand Prix' of the festival to the Soviet film 'Caucasus' which showed the scenic beauty and tourist facilities in that part of the Soviet Union. The first prize with special mention for artistic merit was awarded to the Indian film 'India Today' directed by S. Sukhdev. The three main prizes were awarded to the films 'Wings and Wheels' (Austria), 'Skis for You' (Switzerland) and 'Through CSSR with a Song' (Czechoslovakia). The Indian film 'India Today' which was screened on the first day — September 17 — of the festival was the only one which received spontaneous applause from the audience on that day.

Yet Another Degree

President Giri was awarded the Degree of Doctor of Laws by the Bratislava University during his visit of Czechoslovakia. Picture shows Mr Giri receiving the degree from the Rector.

Photo shows Smt. Ravi Kanta Jain, wife of the Cultural attache of the Indian Embassy at Prague receiving the prize from Mr Milan Lion, Chairman of the Festival Committee for the Indian film.

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UNITED KINGDOM

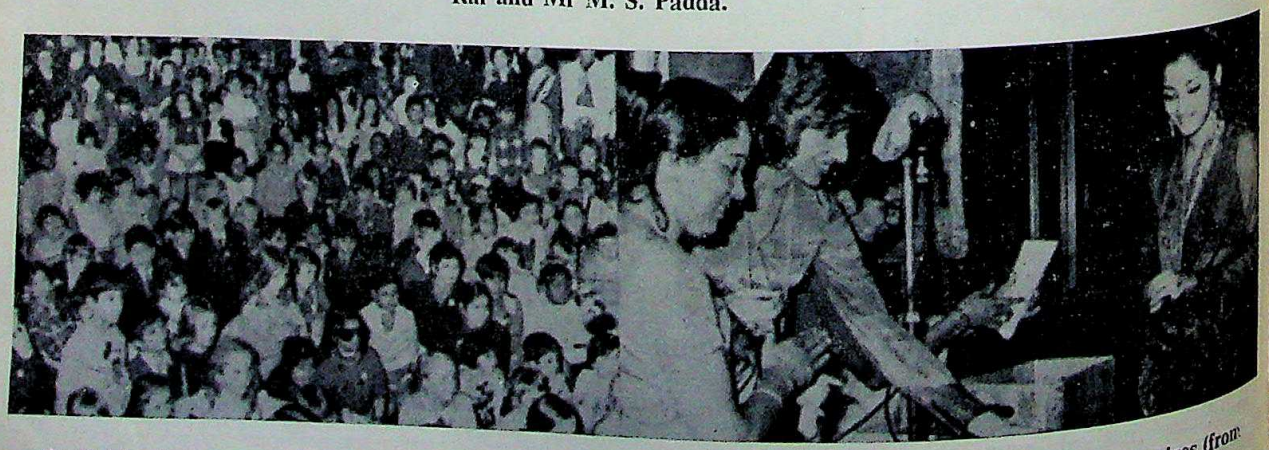
'Chacha' Nehru: India League's Children's Party at India House

As it was last year on Jawaharlal Nehru's birthday — 14 November—which is celebrated every year in India as Children's Day, this year The India League's Children Party was held on 15 November also at India House.

Indian children with their friends of British and other nationalities were guests of the League and introduced to High Commisioner B. K. Nehru, Mrs Shobha Nehru Mr V. K. Krishna Menon, MP (India) and Mr Lalit Sen, a prominent member of the Indian National Congress who has been on short visit to this country in connection with proposed Nehru Memorial Centre sponsored by the League. Mr Julius Silverman, MP, chairman of the League, welcomed the children. Mrs Eve Silverman, Mrs Elizabeth Collard, Vice-chairman and Dr Tarapada Basu, General Secretary of the League, Mrs Lachmi Basu, Mr G. V. Shukla, PRO, India House Mrs Tripti Das, Mrs Vimla Lalvani, Mrs Malati (Miss India of 1972) Lalvani, Mrs C. Job, Mrs M. Nayyar, Dr (Miss) A. Deva and others.

The Archbishop of Canterbury addressing the congregation. Dr J. Thomas, President of I.C.O. seen in chair.

At the Indian Workers Association, Southall function from left to right are Mr A. Rouf of Bangladesh High Commission, Mr S. D. Khan of Pakistan Embassy, Mr Hanif of Pakistan Workers Association, Hounslow, Mr A. S. Rai and Mr M. S. Padda.



(Left) The large group of children watching the magic show. (Right) Distribution of the special lucky prizes (from left) Mrs Tripti Das, Mrs Vimla Lalvani, Mrs C. Job and Mrs Malti Lalvani.

—Photo: Madan Arora

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J. Thomas,

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Indian Christian Organisation

The Rt. Rev. Archbishop of Canterbury and Mrs Ramsay, the Deputy High Commissioner for India and Mrs Rasgotra, and Sir Charles and Lady Cunningham (Uganda Resettlement Board), were the chief guests at the Annual Dinner of the Indian Christian Organisation held at the Royal Commonwealth Society on October 12.

The Archbishop of Canterbury praised the contribution of the Indian Christians to the building of India and in showing the path for church reunion. He said that the Indian Christians in Britain were specially suited to bring about understanding between the immigrants and local communities, and hoped they would play this role of reconciliating.

Indian held in UK for alleged murder of wife

Jaskaram Singh Sandhu, a 32-year-old Indian, has been charged with the murder of his wife, Karpal Sandhu.

Mrs Sandhu (30) one of the three non-white policewomen in London, was stabbed in the neck near her home in east London on Sunday night.

Born in Zanzibar, she was the mother of a girl aged six and a boy of four. She joined the police in February, 1971, but resigned in October to go to India to meet her husband's relatives.

She returned to London after a few months and rejoined the police. She was returning home when she was stabbed.

High Commissioner presents Credentials

India's new High Commissioner to the Court of St. James's, His Excellency Mr B. K. Nehru, presented the letter of commission from the President of India, Mr V. V. Giri, to Her Majesty the Queen on Thursday, November 8. The High Commissioner, accompanied by senior officers of India House and escorted by Mr J. N. O. Curle, CMG, CVO, Acting Marshal of the Diplomatic Corps, left his residence in Royal carriages sent from Buckingham Palace for the purpose and returned to his residence in the same carriages.

Photo shows the High Commissioner getting into the Royal carriage with the letter from the President of India in his hand.

Photo shows the procession of carriages on its way to Buckingham Palace.

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Malaysia / Singapore

Harilelas of Hongkong

The Indian business tycoon of Hong Kong, Mr Hari N. Harilela, who has already invested M$17 million in Malaysia, has announced plans to invest a further M$20 million in Perak by the end of next year. Mr Harilela, who was in Ipoh (capital of Perak) recently, said that of the M$10 each would go for the manufacturing and hotel industries, including a M$4 million hotel in the Perak Governments tourism complex in Gopeng Road, Ipoh. "Ipoh needs and deserves an international standard hotel as it is on the highway from Kuala Lumpur to Penang," he said. A project evaluation is already under way for the construction of an 80 room hotel in Gopeng Road, which can be expanded to 200 rooms later, he said.

Mr Hari N. Harilela

He was in Ipoh to review the progress of his first investment—Fujisash (Malaysia) Metal Industries Sdn. Bhd. (producing aluminium extrusion items), Rock Chemical Industries Sdn. Bhd. and Metalware manufacturers (M) Sdn. Bhd. each with a capital of M$5 million, and in association with the Industries and Realty Group Berhad. Mr Harilela said machinery for these three projects were on the way.

The MIC Delegates Conference

The much postponed 21st annual Delegates Conference of the Malaysian Indian Congress (MIC) was held recently in Kuala Lumpur. With about 800 delegates from some 350 branches participating, it was one of the largest gatherings ever witnessed at an MIC annual assembly. The three-day session was preceded by the official opening of the M$2.4 million dollars nine-storey MIC headquarters building at Jalan Maxwell by the Prime Minister, Tun Abdul Razak who, in his speech, assured that the future of Malaysian Indians was just as bright as that of the others. Tun Razak, who is also the President of the ruling Alliance Party of which the MIC is a partner, said the MIC had contributed a lot to the fight for Independence and also towards the strength of the Alliance. The Prime Minister requested delegates to place their confidence in the new leadership so that the MIC's strength could be maintained.

The new President, Tan Sri V. Manickavasagam in his address appealed delegates to close their ranks in the interests of the party, the Alliance and the nation. He said though the MIC had some 350 branches and 60,000 members. He called on the members to help him turn the MIC into a disciplined and democratic organisation and said that he proposed to take steps over the next few months to strengthen the machinery of the MIC State and branch offices. The delegates also elected Senator Datuk Athi Nahappan as the Vice-President, while the President announced the appointment of Mr S. Subramaniam as the Hon. Secretary General and the re-appointment of Senator Tan Sri S. O. K. Ubaidullah to the Central Working Committee. The President, who is also the Federal Minister for Labour and Manpower, presented a cheque for M$10,001 to Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Hussein Onn as the MIC's donation to the National Heroes' Welfare Fund.

MIC wants more seats in Parliament

Among the resolutions passed at the MIC delegates conference was one requesting the Alliance National Council for wider representation for the party in Parliament and State Legislatures. The resolution pointed out that the number of parliamentary and State legislative constituencies had been increased but the MIC did not have "adequate representation" in these bodies. Another resolution called on the Government to establish a separate Ministry to look after the welfare of estate workers, the large bulk of whom are Indians.

Magasaysay Award for Dr B. C. Sekhar

Another matter of great satisfaction to the Malaysian Indian community was the presentation recently of the Ramon Magsaysay Award to Dr B. C. Sekhar, Director of the Rubber Research Institute of Malaysia for outstanding services in the cause of

Dr B. C. Sekhar (right) Director of the Rubber Research Institute of Malaysia, watching as the Prime Minister is trying his hand at tapping a rubber tree.

natural rubber. The award carried US$10,000 in cash, a gold medal and a citation. Dr Sekhar, 44, has attended many interna-

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tional conferences on rubber, and has been honoured by several universities and institutions and has received many awards including the rubber industry's highest award, the Colwyn Medal.

India exports rubber to Singapore

While on the subject of natural rubber, I may as well add that India has become the newest supplier of rubber to Singapore. According to Mr Mitra Sen, the outgoing Singapore branch manager of the State Trading Corporation of India, India sold about 500 tons of rubber worth S$1 million to a leading Singapore firm. Mr Sen who is leaving in November after three years in Singapore, said prospects were good for Indian rubber in the world markets. Indian rubber, he said, is of good quality and of standards comparable to the international RSS (ribbed smoked sheet) Grade. "We hope to sustain the export market here on a regular basis," he said. This is the first time India is exporting rubber.

According to the latest Indian official year book, rubber acreage in India is 203,000 hectares and output in 1971-72 was 101,000 tonnes, while her synthetic rubber factory in Bareilly produced 33,000 tonnes during the same period, in which her consumption was 87,227 tonnes of natural rubber and 37,000 tonnes of synthetic. This shows that in 1971-72 India had an exportable surplus of 13,713 tonnes of natural rubber, while she was short of 4,000 tonnes of synthetic.

India nets S$2m orders in Singapore

I am also glad to report that businessmen from India who were in Singapore on the occasion of the recent Indian Trade Exhibition in the Republic and negotiated deals worth more than S$2 million. The exhibition sponsored by the Government of India and opened by the Indian High Commissioner in Singapore, Mr Thomas Abraham, was open to the public for 15 days and it attracted more than 50,000 visitors. It was the third trade show to be held by the Indian Government, the first two being in 1961 and 1970. According to a spokesman for the exhibition, apart from booking S$2 million worth of orders, Indian firms participating in the show were also able to negotiate 45 agency agreements with local dealers for such sophisticated items as machine tools, grinders, scientific instruments and automobile parts. Also more than 125 "serious" business inquiries including some for joint ventures were reported.

Mr Thomas Abraham, Indian High Commissioner in Singapore cutting the tape to open the Indian Trade Exhibition in Singapore.

Indian joint venture in Malacca

In Malaysia, many Indian joint ventures are already in operation, while several more are in the investigation and planning stages. Latest is a proposal to set up a factory to manufacture flexible packaging materials at the Ryer Kroh Industrial Estate in Malacca. Said to be the first of its kind in Malaysia, the factory is to be a joint venture between Printpak Machinery of India and Malaysia Waxed Paper Manufacturers. Printpak managing director, Mr Inder Oberoi was in Malaysia recently in this connection and if negotiations are successful, work on the construction of the factory will begin in November this year. Printpak will contribute 25 per cent share capital and also provide machinery and know-how for the venture.

Initially, the factory will manufacture flexible packaging materials such as printed waxed paper, printed cellophane wrapping, for the food packaging industry, confectioners, soap and cigarettes packing and bakeries. Later, it will go into the manufacture of other products such as stencil paper, transparent paper and facial cleansing paper. According to a director of the Malaysia Waxed Paper Manufacturers, Mr G. L. Bong, Malaysia imported 7,200 tons of printed waxed paper worth around M$6 million last year. This will be about the new factory's initial output in a year.

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Nuclear energy from India

Apart from joint ventures in industrial and manufacture fields, India is reported to have offered Malaysia technology for nuclear energy. This was announced by the Malaysian Minister of Special Functions, Mr Michael Chen, who stated that India's objectives were similar to those of Malaysia—the use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes. Mr Chen added that India could share her experience in pollution control.

—G. S. Muthukrishnan.

Don't ape the West

Dr Kernial Singh Sandhu, Director of the Institute of South-east Asian Studies, Singapore, in a recent address said that people usually aped other cultures because they failed to realize fully the value of their own. This could lead to a breakdown of the existing cultural values and making people and nations nonenities

Dr. Sandhu

who belong neither to one nor to another Culture. In Asia, he saw the danger of aimless aping the west. One of the ways of controlling the undesirable influence would be through education, mass media and the co-operation of the individual.

Diwali in Singapore

Children at work—of eating goodies and having fun. Banu Pasupathi, Barathan and Jayanthi.

LAGOS / NIGERIA

The Bank of India (Nigeria) Limited opened a branch at 52, Lebanon Street, Ibadan.

Mr T. M. Aluko (left) Western State Commissioner for Finance cut the tape to declare the branch. Mr R. M. Bose, Manager, Lagos branch is seen watching with keen interest.

In the picture are seen, the permanent Secretary, Ministry of Finance, Western State, Mrs Bakul Bose, Mr T. M. Aluko, Western State Commissioner for Finance and Mr R. M. Bose.

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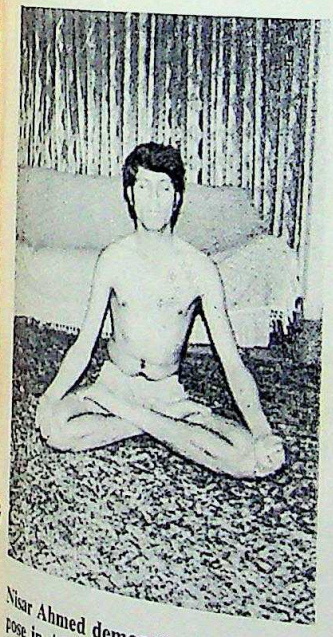
TURKEY

Indian Hitch-Hiker Nisar Ahmed in Ankara

Indian "world hitch-hiker", Nisar Ahmed, was here. He has covered 34,000 kms. since February, 1972, when he left Poona on a world tour, sponsored by the Lions Club of Poona. His route takes in four continents, 50 countries and 500 major cities.

Nisar Ahmed set off from Poona on February 24, 1972, with a mere $3 in his pocket and took a boat from Bombay to Dar-es-Salam. Having hitch-hiked his way through East Africa, he crossed to Saudi Arabia, up to Jordon, Syria, and Lebanon, by boat to Egypt, then back to Iraq and finally to Kuwait and Iran. He is in Turkey now and plans to leave for Europe, via Istambul.



Nisar Ahmed demonstrating a Yoga pose in Ankara, Turkey.

Staying in mosques, temples and youth hostels, Nisar picked up what language he needed as he was going along. In Ankara, he has already started saying "Gunaydin", "Tosokkur Ederim" and "Gule Gule". His closest shave to date was when a pick-up he was travelling in the Tanzania jungle swerved to avoid a herd of pigs and ejected him to the field, shaken but luckily unhurt.

PHILLIPINES

New Indian Chief in Manila

Indian Ambassador Mr P. S. Naskar arrives at Manila International Airport on October 14, 1973. He is accompanied by his wife and son.

CALCUTTA

Sindhi Boli Sahitya Sabha

Shri Kirat Babani, President Akhil Bharat Sindhi Boli & Sahit Sabha, welcomes Shri Shanker Gosh, Revenue Minister West Bengal at the 1st All India Sindhi Drama Festival held on Sept. 1, 2, 3 1973 at Calcutta. Seated from R. to L. are: distinguished Sindhis of Calcutta—Sarvashri Kishin Belani, H. Punwani, Shankar Gosh, Uttamsingh, Indru Malkani, Popti Hiranandani and Bharat.

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HONG KONG

New man for banking house

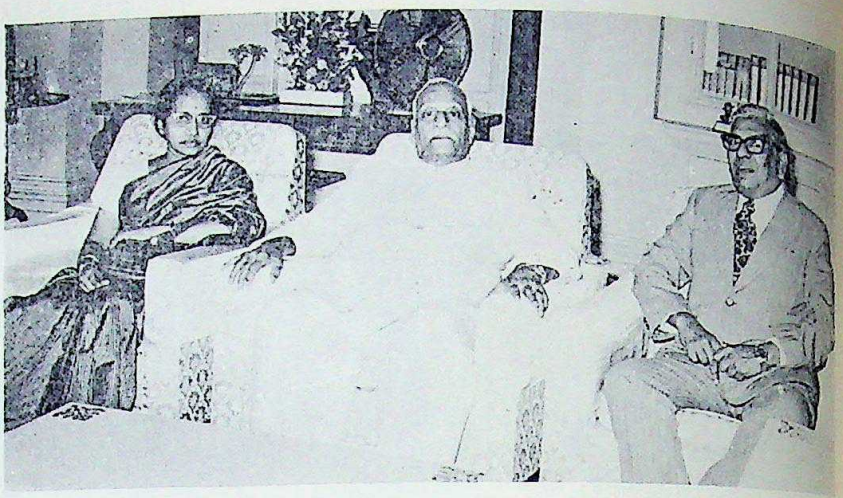
Mr K. J. Lalwani

The Vice President and Resident Manager of Kidder, Peabody and Co, Ltd, Mr Eric Chu announced the appointment of Mr K. J. Lalwani as additional representative to their Hongkong office.

Mr Lalwani holds a B.A. Degree in Economics (Honours) and a M.A. (Honours) Degree in Sociology from the University School of Economics, Bombay University.

Prior to joining Kidder, Peabody and Co, Mr Lalwani was for many years associated with Indian Overseas Bank, Hongkong, where he served in various capacities rising upto the status of Acting Manager.

Mr Lalwani will shortly be leaving for the United States and Europe for an intensive training programme at the company's offices before being located in Hongkong.



Mr S. A. Ram—Secretary of the Indian Chamber of Commerce Hong Kong took a short vacation along with his wife and visited several places, including India, Ceylon, Singapore and Indonesia. During his trip he also paid a courtesy call to Mr V. V. Giri, President of India. Seen above at the Rashtrapati Bhavan at New Delhi are from L to R: Mrs S. A. Ram, President Giri and Mr S. A. Ram.

Photographed at a recent cocktail party were from L to R: Mr A. R. Rajgopalan, Mr Lincon Linn and Mr Dial Gidwani.

Seen above having a friendly chat are L to R: Mr J. Watumall of Hawaii, Mr Sakhrani and Mr K. K. Unni photographed at a recent Air India luncheon party.

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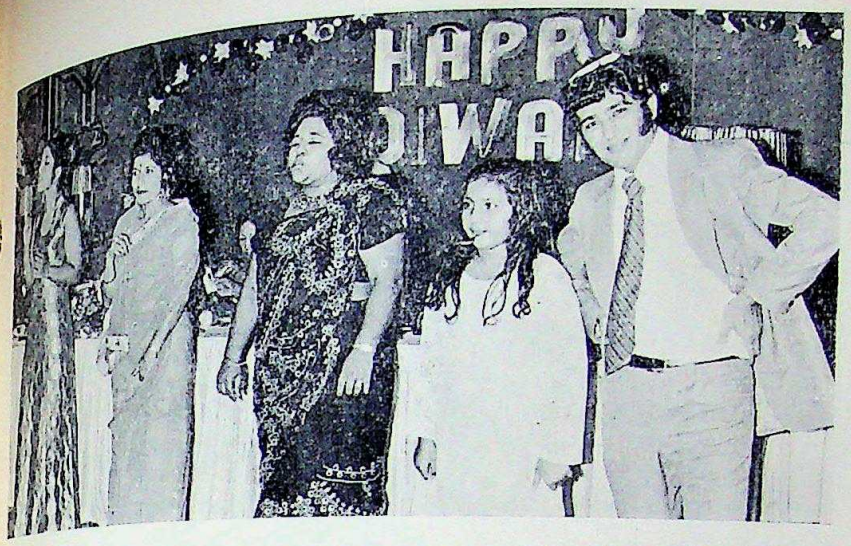

Above is one of the many events that took place at the Diwali Ball and the participants obviously seem to be enjoying themselves.

As usual there were two Diwali Balls held to celebrate the Indian New Year—at the Hilton Hotel in Hongkong and newly opened Furama Hotel. Seen here posing with Sandy Tahil—gracefully dressed as Godess Lakshmi, are from L to R: Mrs Rani Hiranand and Mrs Kavita Vaswani.

Photographed at the entrance of the Hilton Grand Ballroom are from L to R: Miss Nanda Raj being helped by her mother Vindri Raj, Mrs Rani Hiranand and Mrs Kamal Harilela.

Mr Arjan Nanwani of Amalgamated World Exporters H.K. Ltd., recently held a cocktail party at the Excelsior Hotel. Among his many guests were L to R: Mr Nanwani (The host) Mr K. Dialdas, Mr A. R. Merchant, Mr H. H. Adwaney and Mr Harry Sonpar.

Miss Lata Shahani, an exponent of Bhangra dances and a well known performer at stage was here specially to give a dance recital at the Diwali Ball. She is seen here in one of her many poses during her dance performance.

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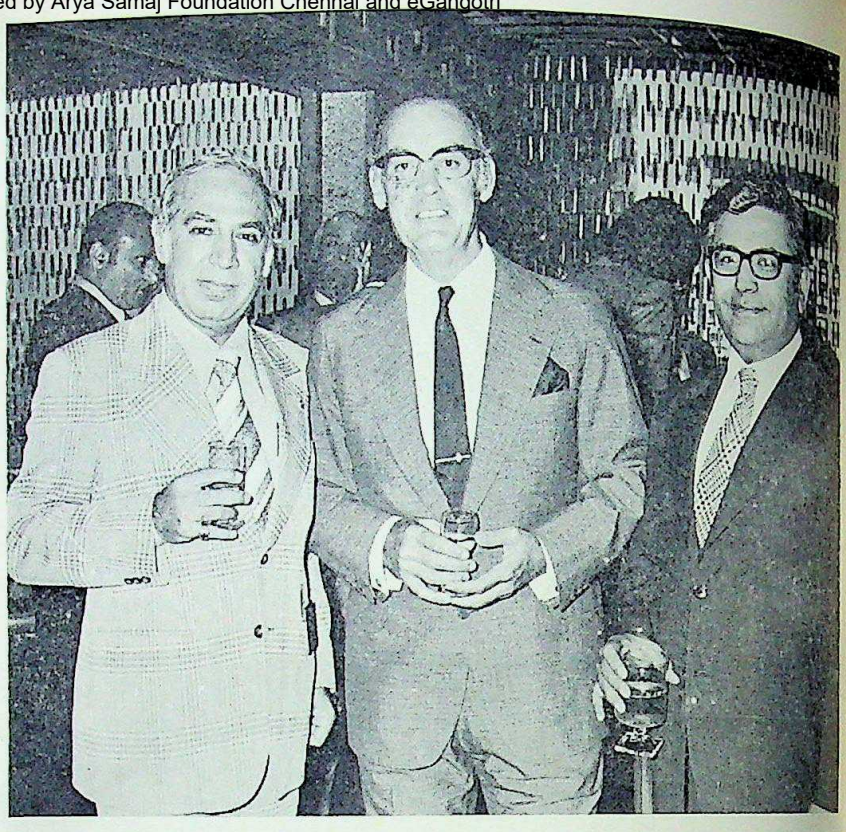
Mr A. C. George, deputy Minister of Commerce India was recently in Hongkong. During his stay he met the Chairman of Indian Chamber of Commerce—Mr. K. Sital and discussed about trade promotion scheme from India.

He also attended a dinner reception organised in his honour by Hongkong Kerala Samajam held at the residence of Mr. N. K. Nair. Recently newly elected President of Kerala Samajam, Mr Balan Nair was also present at the function.



The Indian Chamber of Commerce members met at a luncheon meeting recently the Spanish Consul-General in Hongkong, Mr J. L. de la Guardia. At the meeting, from left, Mr Hari Harilela, Mr la Guardia, and the ICC chairman, Mr K. Sital.

Miss America 1973—Miss Terry Ann Meeusen paid a short visit to Hong Kong and is here photographed with Gope Daswani of Sonella's Fashions at the Furama Hotel.

The newly-weds Mr. and Mrs. P. De Sousa held their wedding reception in the Phoenix Restaurant of the Excelsior Hotel on 24th November. Mr. De Sousa works for China Light and Power and his wife was a secretary in Bombay. The couple are honeymooning in Macau.

Picture shows Mr. Peter De Sousa and the former Miss Freda Vaz.

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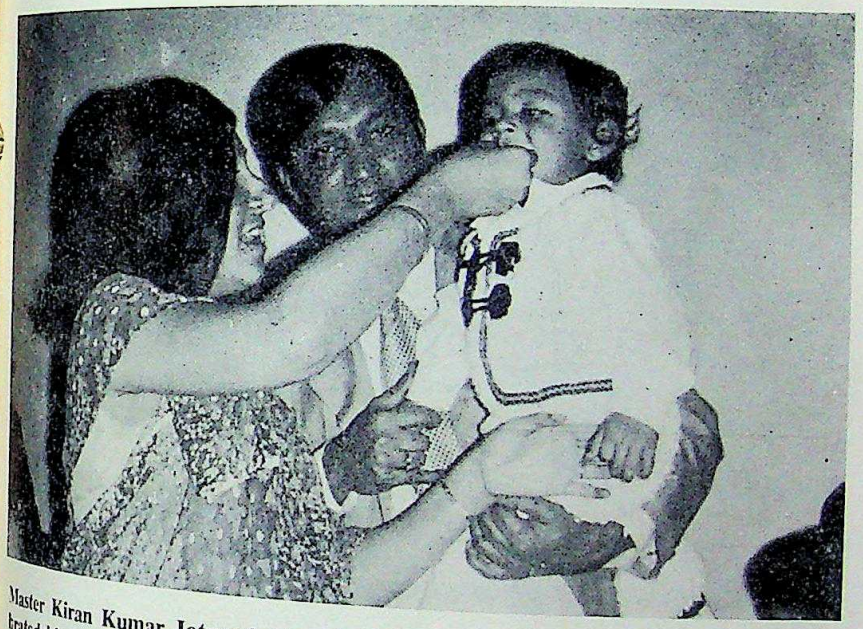
Exploration Visit

The Hongkong Shiah Association celebrated Eid-Ul-Fitr Day (which is the first day after the month of Ramadan) by participating in a variety of festivities at the Local Hotel. Picture shows from left: Miss Duraiya Gulamabbas, Miss Jameelah Tyebkhan, Miss Shabnam Chiba, Miss Makhduda Nakhoda.

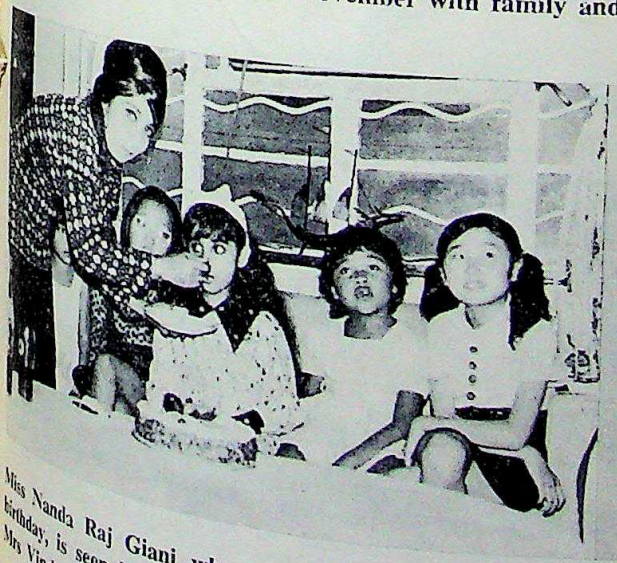
Dr Ram Vepa, Director in the Department of Electronics, Government of India, was recently in Hongkong after attending a seminar in Japan. During his stay in Hongkong he visited a number of electronic factories and explored the possibility of export of electronic items to Hongkong.

Dr Vepa feels confident that the Indian manufacturers would be able to supply bulk quantities of the numerous types of components required for these makes, "at competitive prices and in regular deliveries."

Dr Vepa said that many in these parts are not aware of the "vast strides" India has made in the last five years in the development of her electronics industry — not to mention the development in nuclear electronics which India perfected and specialised soon after independence.



Master Kiran Kumar Jotwani, son of Asha and Mr Chandroo Jotwani celebrated his 1st Birthday on 28th November with family and friend.



Miss Nanda Raj Giani who recently celebrated her birthday, is seen here being fed by her loving mum Mrs Vindri Raj and Flanked by some of her friends.

Miss Mirpuri daughter of Mr & Mrs Nanik Mirpuri recently celebrated her birthday and is seen here with her many friends and relatives.

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INDONESIA

Indian Chief of Army Staff visits Indonesia

To further strengthen the bonds of friendship between the peoples of the two countries, India and Indonesia, in general and between the Armed Forces of the two countries in particular, Indian Chief of the Army Staff, General G. G. Bewoor along with his wife, Madam Radhka Bewoor, visited Indonesia from the 30th October to the 5th November, 1973.

General G. G. Bewoor's visit was in response to an invitation extended to him by Indonesian Army Chief of Staff, General Surono. In many ways the visit of General Bewoor was a great success. He had the opportunity to meet many Indonesian generals and visited military establishments and training centres. During his short stay, he also visited Bandung, Jogja, Malang and Bali.

by **Mrs Sangeeta Ram**
Our Special Correspondent in Indonesia

H.E. the Ambassador of India and Madam Mahboob Ahmad hosted a Reception in honour of the visiting General. The Reception was attended by V.I.P.s from various military ranks. General Surono also hosted a Dinner in honour of his guests at the Hotel Indonesia. The Indian Association of Jakarta organised a Lunch Party in honour of General Bewoor at "Tiara Room", Hotel Kartika Plaza. It was attended, among others, by General Sutopo Juwono, Chief of the Intelligence Service of Indonesia, Brig. Gen. Widya Latif, Assistant to the Indonesian Army Chief of Staff, Brig. Gen. Abdullah of the Police Force. Mr M. S. Gill, the Acting President of Indian Association, delivered a Welcome Address and presented souvenirs to General and Madam Bewoor.

Madam Radhka Bewoor (X) is seen with representatives of various Ladies Groups in Jakarta during her visit to The Gandhi Memorial School.

Mrs Devi G. Sawlani garlanded Madam Bewoor to welcome her on behalf of the Indian ladies in Jakarta. Standing next to Mrs Sawlani is our correspondent Mrs Sangeeta Ram.

Mr & Mrs Ram Advani are seen welcoming General G. G. Bewoor, Chief of the Army Staff of India, and Madam Bewoor during a Luncheon organised in their honour by the Indian Association of Jakarta at the "Tiara Room", Hotel Kartika Plaza.

Seen in the background are Mr & Mrs M. S. Gill. Mr Gill is the Acting President of Indian Association of Jakarta.

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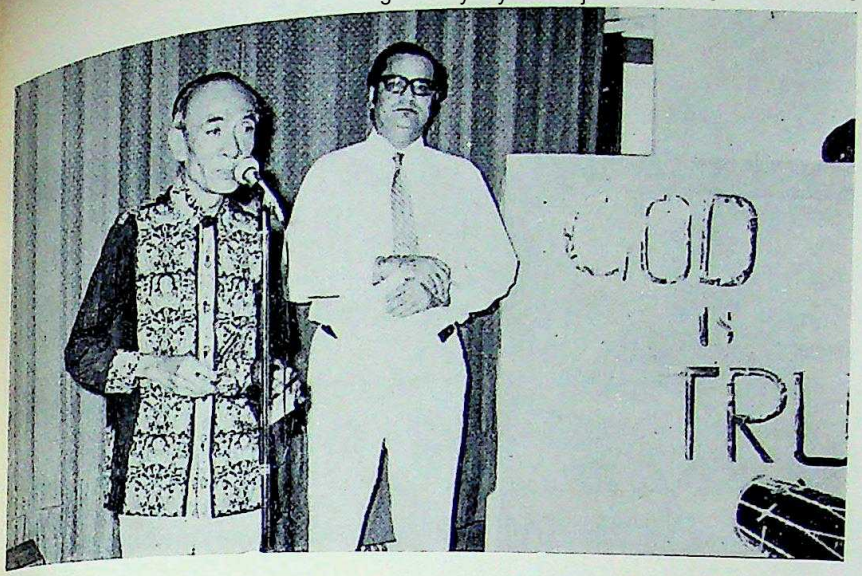

Deputy Governor of Jakarta, Dr Soewondo, is seen speaking on the life and message of Gandhiji on the occasion of the celebration of 104th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi at the Gandhi Memorial School.

H.E. the Ambassador of India, Shri Mahboob Ahmad, presents books on Mahatma Gandhi to the Deputy Governor of Jakarta, Dr Soewondo.

A scene from a One-Act Drama about a Kindergarten Class, performed on the occasion of Nehru's Birthday celebratoin at the Gandhi Memorial School Hall. The students acted as teachers while other students acted as pupils of the K. G. Class.

Birthdays

2nd October is a sacred day not only for Indians but for mankind as a whole. It is the Birthday of one who belongs to the entire world. The 104th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhiji was simply and solemnly celebrated at the Gandhi Memorial School Hall in the morning hours. The celebration was attended not only by members of the Indian community but also by the local intellectuals.

The Deputy Governor of Jakarta, Dr Soewondo, was the Guest of Honour and he spoke very highly of Gandhiji's contribution to the emancipation of mankind. Among other speakers were Mr Moh. Said, ex-Minister of Education of Indonesia, Mrs Lasmi Hardi, advisor to the present Minister of Education and Mr Suardi Lani, Head of the Jakarta Education Department. H.E. the Ambassador of India, Shri Mahboob Ahmad, also spoke on the Message of the Mahatma and presented books on the Mahatma to the local V.I.P.s who attended the function. Children of the School presented a variety of programme having deep connection with the celebration of the day.

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru

14th November was celebrated as Indian Children's Day in Jakarta. It happened to be not only the Birthday of our late Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru but also the Birthday of Mr V. Ram, Principal of The Gandhi Memorial School. So, for the students of the School, this day had triple importance. The School repeated its novel experiment of last year and permitted the students of the higher classes to manage the School on that day. All teachers acted as Prefects while the students of the Senior classes acted as Teachers. Master Nanik G. Keswani had the privilege to act as Principal while Master Feroze Akbany and Master Mahesh Lalmalani assumed the roles of Supervisors.

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In the evening a Drama Competition was held. Three One-Act Plays in English, one in Sindhi and one in Hindi were performed. H.E. the Ambassador of India and Madam Mahboob Ahmad, Mr A. A. Iyer, First Secretary (Consular), Embassy of India, and Mrs Iyer were among those who attended the function. Mrs Devi G. Sawlani, Mrs Gul S. Samtani and Mr L. Ramchand acted as Judges and Prizes were awarded to the best artists. The First and Second Prizes were contributed by H.E. the Ambassador of India. The Ambassador congratulated the children for celebrating the 14th November with such great devotion.

Guru Nanak

The 504th Birth Anniversary of Guru Nanak was celebrated with great devotion on the 10th November 1973. For the first time Bhog of Akhand Path at the Tanjung Priuk Gurudwara was performed at 1.30 a.m. H.E. the Ambassador of India, Shri Mahboob Ahmad, also attended the function.

Satya Sai Baba

Devotees of Satya Sai Baba organised the celebration of the 47th Birthday of Satya Sai Baba at the Sindhu House, Jakarta, on the 3rd November 1973. The function was attended by a great number of members of the Indian Community and high tributes were paid to Satya Sai Baba. Satsang and lectures were held.

Dadaji T. L. Vaswani

For the first time in Jakarta, the Birthday of Dadaji T. L. Vaswani was celebrated at The Gandhi Memorial School Hall on 23rd Oct. 1973. The celebration was attended by a large number of Indians living in Jakarta. Mr Gangaram, Secretary and a close associate of Dadaji, spoke on the occasion and paid rich tributes to Dadaji's life and message. Mr Mohan Mirpuri also narrated his School

Mrs Sangeeta Ram

Our Special Correspondent

days at the St. Mira School. Two short 16 m.m. films showing glimpses of Dadaji's life and message were shown. It is hoped that the Birthday of this Saint will be celebrated every year in Jakarta with great reverence.

Deepavali

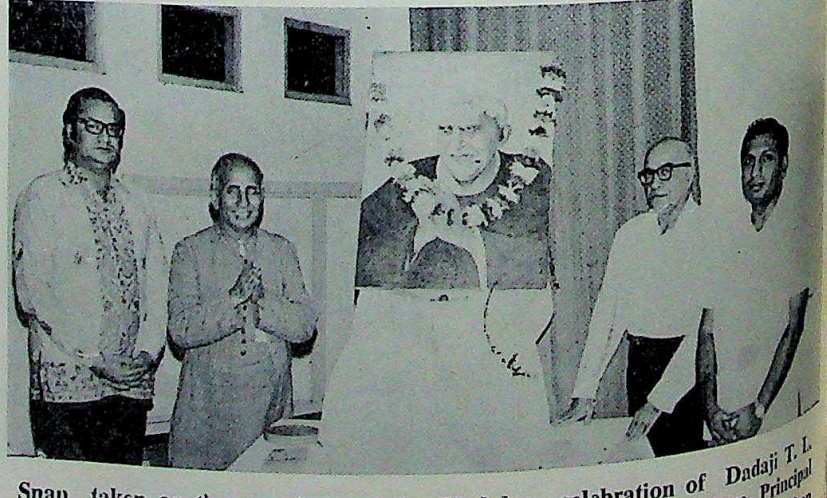
The Bombay Merchants Association of Jakarta organised a Dinner Party to celebrate Deepavali at the "Tiara Room", Hotel Kartika Plaza. The Party was attended by leading businessmen, H.E. the Ambassador of India and Madam Mahboob Ahmad and many other officials of the Indian Embassy.

On the same day, a Deepavali Dinner was also held at the Sindhu House, Jakarta, and was attended by a great number of members of the Indian Community.

On the 17th November, 1973 the Young Ladies Group held a grand function at the "Paprika" Night-club to celebrate the 7th Anniversary of the Group. The function was very well attended and the food was delicious. The first floor-show especially took the audience by surprise, as the strip-tease dancer, a beautiful blonde. turned out to be a handsome guy. The show had a great sense of humour. Mrs Lila H. Babani was crowned as the "Queen" of the Anniversary.

Indian Minister of Education to visit Indonesia

Prof. S. Nurul Hassan, Minister of Education and Culture of India, will be visiting Indonesia from the 10th to the 14th December, 1973 to attend the Asian Cultural Ministers' Meetings at Jogja. He will be accompanied by a strong team of delegates Prof. Nurul Hassan will be visiting The Gandhi Memorial School on the 14th Dec. 1973 wherein he will not only go round the classes but will also speak to the children and install the "Students Government".



Snap taken on the occasion of the Birthday celebration of Dadaji T. L. Vaswani. Seen in the picture (from left to right) are: Mr V. Ram, Principal of The Gandhi Memorial School, Mr Gangaram, Mr Mukhi and Mr Mohan Mirpuri.

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Gleanings from Indian press

Mr C. Subramaniam, Minister of Industrial Development and Science Technology, was invited to New York by the U.N. Secretary General, to mark World Development Information Day.

* * *

The Indo-Japanese Mixed Commission met in New Delhi recently, to thrash out a Cultural Exchange Programme between the two countries.

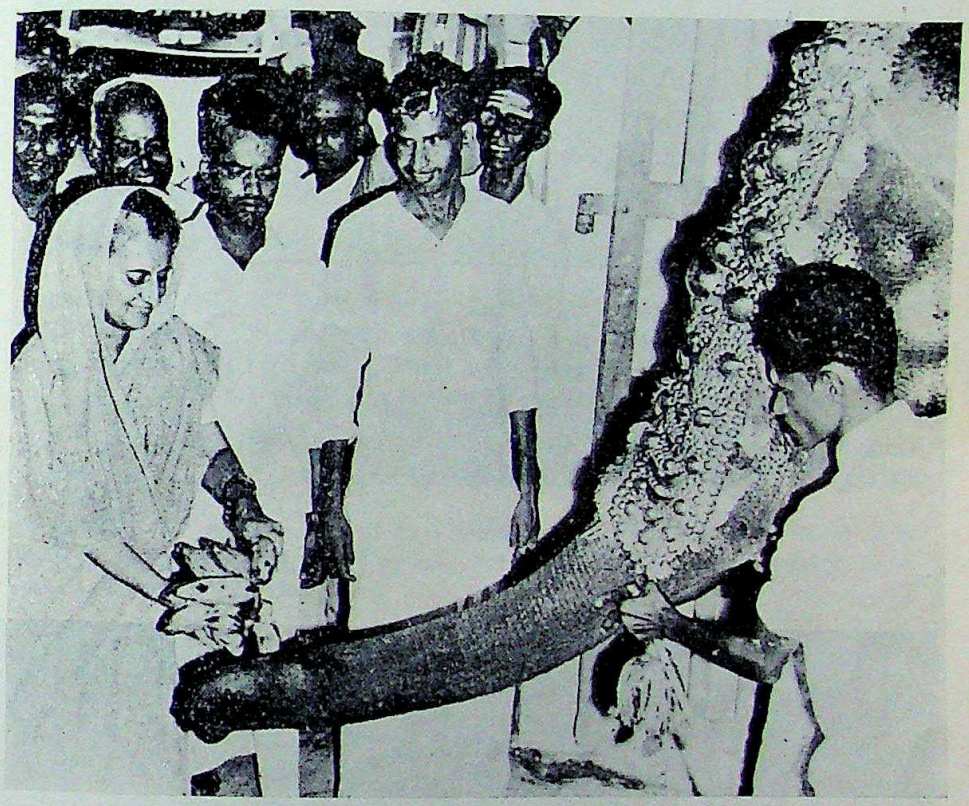
* * *

Philatelists from West Bengal top the list, displaying about 302 frames among the Indian participants in INDIPEX-73 opening on November 14, 1973. Philatelists from Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu come next. Countrywise, philatelists from the United Kingdom are displaying the largest number, exhibiting 402 frames. Each frame normally contains 50 to 100 stamps.

* * *

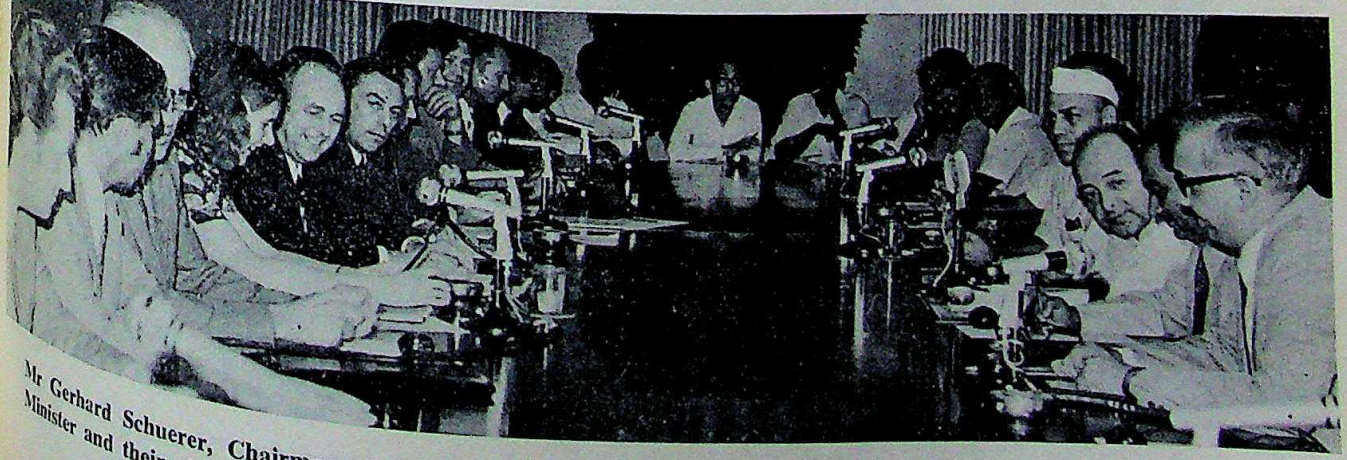
The first-ever Indian film festival held in Australia, was inaugurated on October 15 at Sydney' sprestigious Opera House. An Indian film festival is likely to be staged in New Zealand also.

Mrs Gandhi at Rameshwaram



The Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, feeding the temple elephant at the historical Rameshwaram Temple which she visited recently.

Indo - German Talks



Mr Gerhard Schuerer, Chairman of the GDR Planning Commission and Shri D. P. Dhar, Indian Planning Minister and their aides at the Indo-GDR talks in New Delhi.

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The Vice-President, Shri G. S. Pathak, who is the Chancellor of Delhi University, conferring the degree of Doctorate, Honoris Causa, on His Majesty the King of Nepal Birendra Bir Bikram Shah Dev at a special convocation of the University held on October 13, 1973 in Delhi.

Their Majesties the King and Queen of Nepal are currently on a seven-day State Visit to India.

The Indian stand at the 44th Brussels Food and House hold Goods fair organised by the Indian Embassy and Tea Board of India was awarded the Grand Prix and the Gold Medal Diploma for the display and sale of tea and food products.

★ ★ ★

Mother Theresa, well-known recipient of the Jawaharlal Nehru Award for the promotion of Peace and International understanding, has opened a social service centre in Peru and five Indian nuns have arrived in Lima to run the centre.

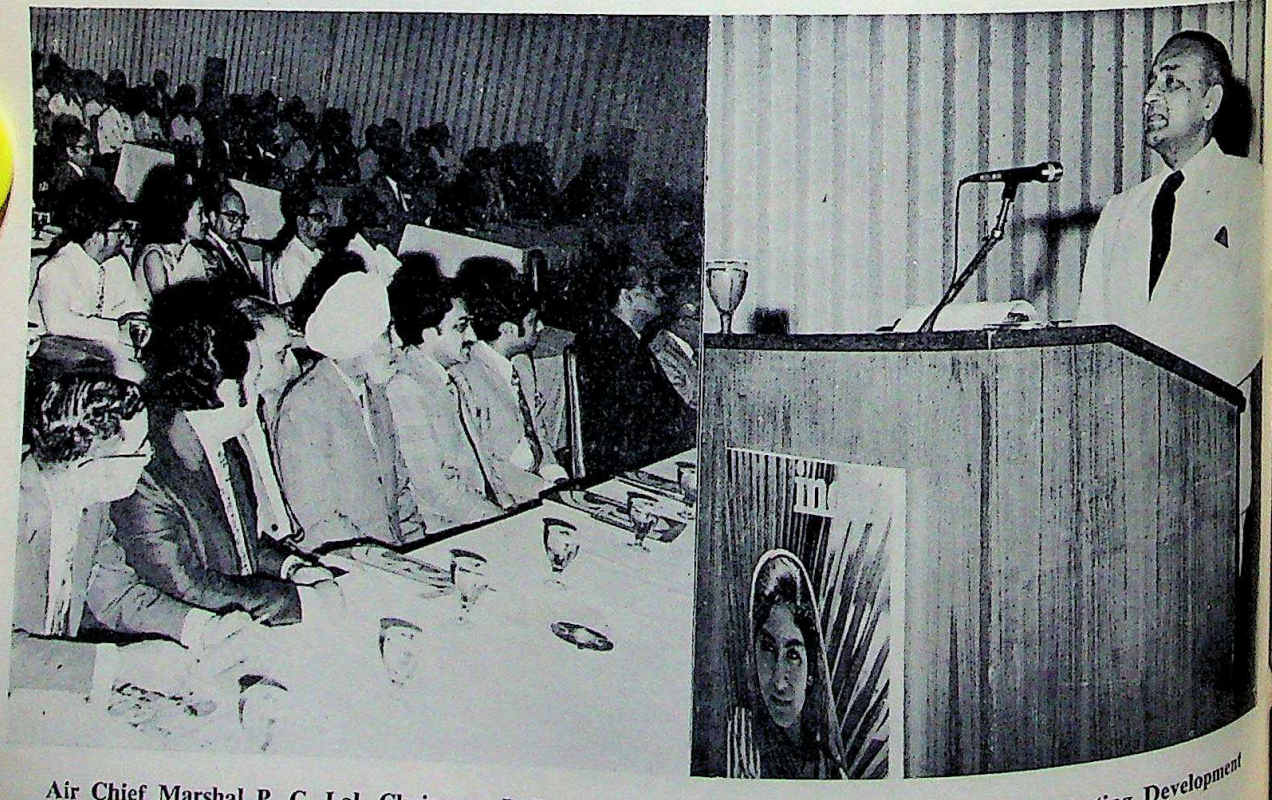
★ ★ ★

A five-man delegation from Moscow led by Mr Mamedov Enver Nazimovich, Deputy Chairman of State Committee on Radio was in New Delhi to discuss the exchange of Radio and TV programmes between the two countries.

★ ★ ★

An agreement was signed between India and Iran for the expansion of cultural ties between the two countries. The agreement provides for co-operation in the fields of Science, culture, education, and sports.

PATA Seminar



Air Chief Marshal P. C. Lal, Chairman, Indian Airlines, inaugurating in New Delhi a Marketing Development Seminar for tourism personnel conducted by PATA.

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An agreement was signed in Brussels between India and Belgium, for a non-project loan of 250 million Belgian francs.

★ ★ ★

India and Canada signed an agreement for a Canadian Loan of C$6 million (Rs 4.2 crores) to finance the purchase from Canada equipment and materials for oil and exploration and development.

★ ★ ★

Air India and SAS signed an agreement wherein SAS will operate on additional once a week service through New Delhi. Reciprocally, Air India will operate two weekly services through Scandinavia.

★ ★ ★

The Posts and Telegraphs Department issued a special postage stamp in honour of Syed Ahmad Khan, the founder of the Aligarh University.

★ ★ ★

Soviet Union will supply to India two million tonnes of wheat on the basis of replacement over a period of seven years.

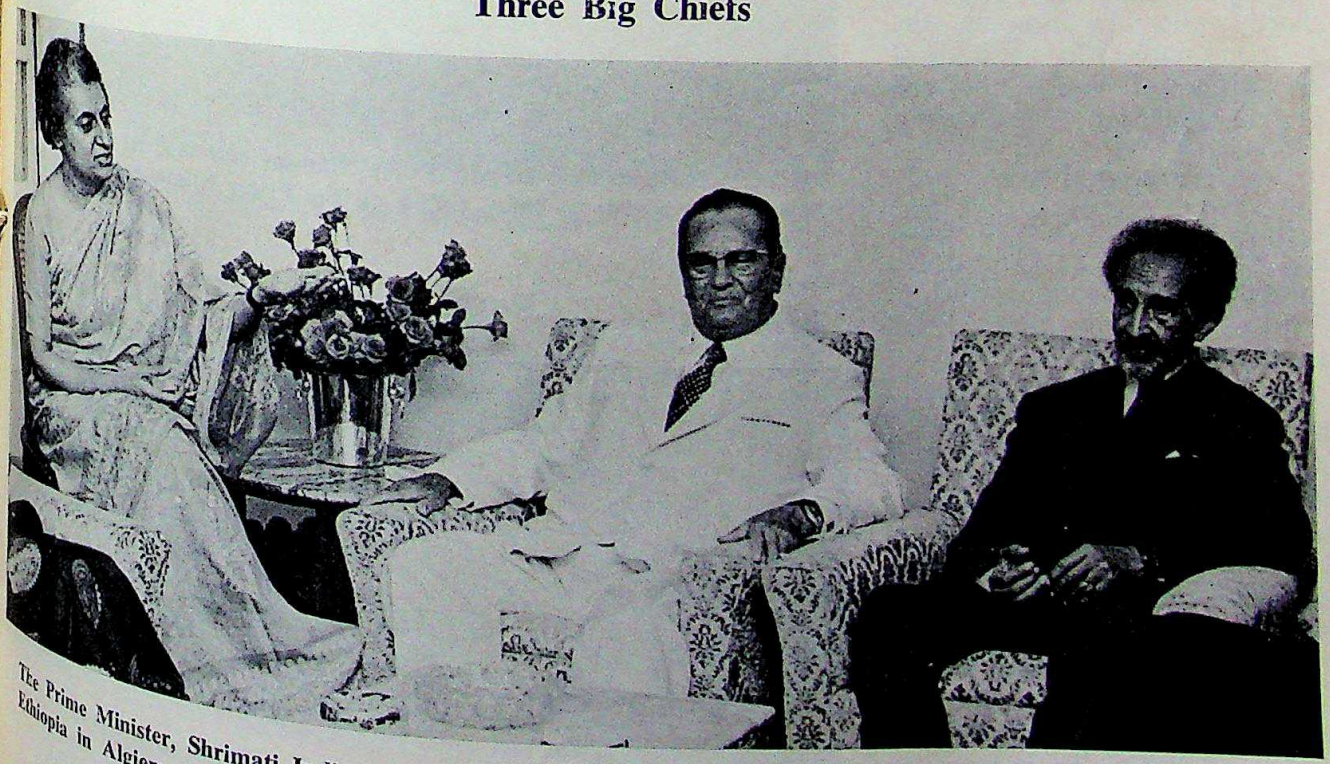
★ ★ ★

Mysore State has been re-named Karnataka fulfilling centuries old aspirations of the Kannada speaking people.

He Came Too

CASTRO of Cuba stopped at New Delhi on his way to Hanoi. Here he is seen being received by Mrs Gandhi. President Castro again haulted in India on his return from Viet Nam.

Three Big Chiefs



The Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, with President Tito of Yugoslavia and Emperor Haile Selassie of Ethiopia in Algiers during the fourth non-aligned summit.

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Spiritual centre 'mother' passed away

The Mother

The Paris-born "Mother" of India's Sri Aurobindo Ashram Spiritual Centre in Pondicherry, which attracted disciples from all over the world, has died there aged 96.

Madame Paula Richard, daughter of a French banker named Alfassa, met the seer and philosopher, Sri Aurobindo, in 1914 shortly after he set up the Ashram (retreat) for the study of mysticism and yoga in the then French settlement of Pondicherry.

Moving force

She settled in India in 1920 and six years later took over the running of the Ashram, which in 1967 had more than 1,500 resident members.

The "Mother" was the moving force behind the idea of Auroville, "City of Dawn", being built in Pondicherry as a tribute to Aurobindo with the aim of bringing together the cultures of all nations. The foundation stone was laid in 1968.

During Aurobindo's lifetime until his death in 1950, the "Mother" was one of only six disciples to see him apart from the four days a year when he held public audience.

Mr Mohammad Naim, Special Representative of the President of Afghanistan called on the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, in New Delhi. Mr Naim brought special messages from the new Afgan Government.

Mr H. S. Radhakishun, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Finance of Suriman on a visit to India called on the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi.

Royal Nepal in India

The King and Queen of Nepal with Prime Minister Indira Gandhi on their arrival in New Delhi.

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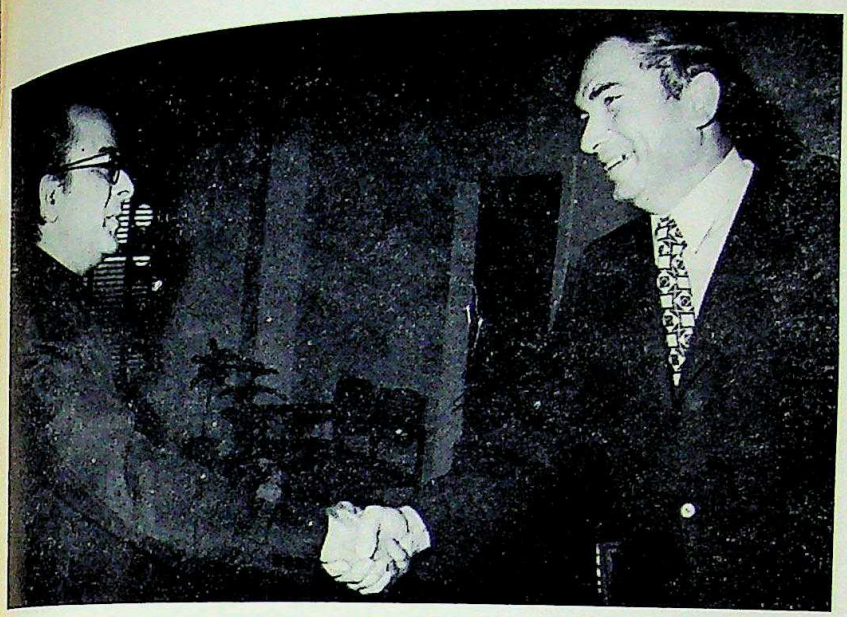
Indo-Soviet Noise Maker's Chiefs

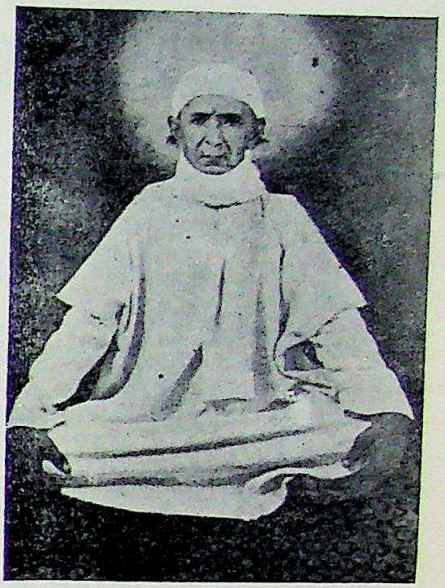


Mr Mamedov Enver Nazimovich, Deputy Chairman of State Committee on Radio and T.V. of U.S.S.R. called on Shri I. K. Gujral, Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting.

The GDR Planning Minister and his wife called on Mrs Indira Gandhi at New Delhi.

Dr H. Mahler, Director-General, World Health Organisation, called on the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, in New Delhi.

Swami Lila Shah passed away



Swami Lila Shah

Swami Lila Shah—Saint Guru of India passed away on 4th November, 1973 at Palanpur, India. He was 92. Swamiji was born in Sind village in the year 1882. From an early age, he kept the company of religious men. At the age of 16, he met Swami Keshavdas, and under his guidance, he acquired knowledge of Vedanta and Hindu scriptures and took the vow of celibcy (Brahamcharya).

Later, he took active part in Independance movement, and promoted the cause of untouchables. After partion, he came to India and devoted his time and energy in social work, particularly crusade against the dowry system.

Swami Lila Shah travelled extensively throughout India. He helped to establish service centres, narishalas and schools. Under his auspices, a monthly journal "Atam Darshan" was started from Ajmer, which portrayed his thinking and teachings.

Swami Lila Shah was a great believer in vegetarianism, nature cure and yoga which he practised and preached all his life.

(Translated from the Sindhi weekly "Hindvasi"—Bombay)

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New Delhi News letter

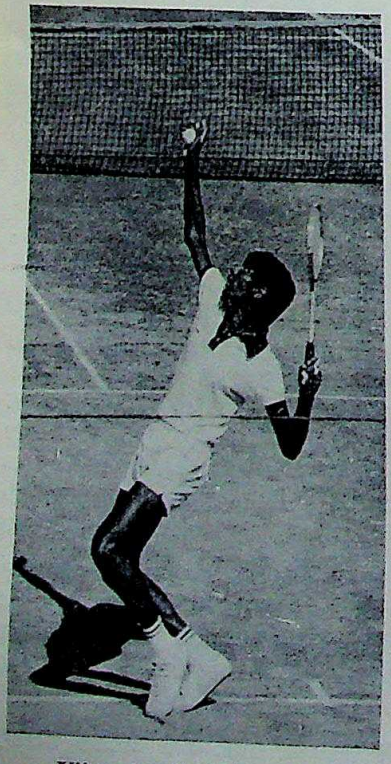
Arvind Bhandari

The Tennis Grand Prix

Being the national capital, New Delhi is ordinarily brimful with activities related to political, diplomatic and administrative chores. But, once in a while, we have a sports extravaganza to mitigate the monotony.

The Tennis Grand Prix of India, a pulsating seven-day sports gala which ended at the Delhi Gymkhana Club courts recently, was just the diversion to neutralise the despondency and dullness induced by the red sandstone portals of the Central Secretariat. What is more, it was also a milestone in Indian tennis.

Vijay Amritraj, that bony-skinned tennis champion from Tamil Nadu, is unquestionably the new star on the Indian tennis firmament. The 19 year-old, fit as a fiddle, strapping youth has established his superiority by winning the Grand Prix after defeating none other than the redoubtable but ageing campaigner, Mal Andersen of Australia.



Vijay Amritraj in action

Vijay's tortuous, but trimphant, march to glory is old that now. We are now confronted with the painful reality that our old trusted trio of Ramanathan Krishnan, Premjit Lal and Jaideep Mukherjee may have reached the end of the thether. The big wallop of a question is who is gonig to provide decent company to Vijay on the Indian tennis circuit. Any takers among the Indians living abroad?

Cultural gap is difficult to bridge

Mrs Indira Gandhi's recent tour of Canada has generated interest on how Indians live in that sprawling land full of economic opportunities. Do they mix freely with the local population? Do they feel discriminated against on grounds of race and colour?

Here are the view of two friends who just returned from Canada. There are more than 7000 Indian immigrants in Canada who are settled mostly in Ottawa, Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver. Most of them are doctors, teachers, engineers and specialists in different fields, although many a Sardarji is known to have left his home and hearth in the Punjab to work as a lumberjack in the Canadian woods.

The Indians earn good salaries and lead a fairly luxurious life which even senior civil servants and business executives in India cannot afford. Yet, a lot of them do not seem to be happy, suffering from what they call "cultural deprivation" inasmuch as there is not enough opportunity for them to enjoy their own culture.

And then their children do not know anything about their own country, its history and culture. They all appear to be rootless creatures and do not find it easy to assimilate with the local population. The feeling of being 'outsiders' and 'second rate' citizens continually plages them. And this exists primarily on the social and cultural plane and for obvious reasons, is not easy to bridge.

Fortunately, there is no open colour or racial prejudice in Canada. Nevertheless, permanent immigration is gradually becoming more difficult.

In a Gallup poll held by the Canadian Institute of Public Opinion on the immigration of foreigners two-thirds of the people opposed immigration because of the acute unemployment problem in Canada. It may not be surprising if any Enoch Powell emerges on the political scene of Canada too, howsoever one may resent it.

What kind of freedom

As if things are not bad enough already, what with the prices skyrocketing and shortage of almost every necessity in the country, petrol price has been hiked by a rupee and a quarter, taking it to nearly Rs. 3 per litre.

What is this country coming to? There is supposed to be freedom

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of press, but no newsprint. There is supposed to be freedom of movement, but no petrol. And, as if to deliver the coup de grace, the Prime Minister must resort to grimmickry.

On November 6 she went to her South Block office in a horse-driven buggy (borowed from Rashtrapati Bhawan) to economise on petrol. Two security cars escorting her—one in front and the other in rear—had to go in low gears, consuming double the petrol. Was petrol being saved? In any case, what was Mrs. Gandhi trying to prove? Nobody is going to be hoodwinked by such showmanship. It only shows up the appalling cynicism that pervades the country.

As one wag put: "She is saving petrol, but is there food for the horses?"

The great migration

The tripartite agreement between India, Pakistan and Bangla-desh involves the biggest three-way movement of populations ever undertaken. India is sending over 90000 Pakistani prisoners of war home. Pakistan and Bangladesh are to exchange thousands of Bengalis and Pakistanis.

Whereas the repatriation of POWs from India has been going on smoothly, exchange of populations between Pakistan and Bangladesh ran into rough weather recently. But External Affairs Ministry sources told the INDIAN that the air of suspicion caused by Pakistani dilatoriness will eventually be cleared.

An assurance has come from Pakistan in response to an urgent plea by India to adhere to the terms of the Delhi agreement in the interest of normalisation of the situation in the sub-continent.

According to the latest figures, between September 19 and October 31, a total of 25719 Bengalis had been repatriated from Pakistan against only 10233 Pakistanis from Bangladesh. India during this period had repatriated a total of 16135 Pakistanis POWs. The low figure of Pakistani repatriates from Bangladesh was due to inordinately slow clearance of the list of repatriates prepared by the Pakistan Government with the assistance of International Red Cross.

Happy Birthday, Madam!

Prime Minister, Mrs Indira Gandhi turned 56 on November 19. There were no festivities, she spent the day quietly with her son, daughter-in-law and two grand children.

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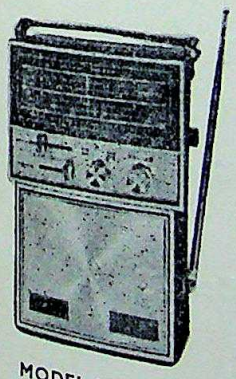

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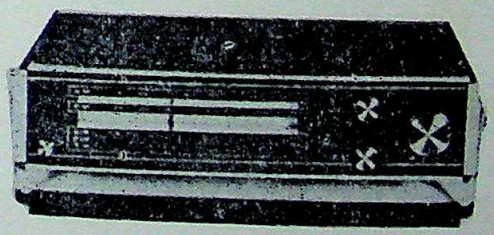

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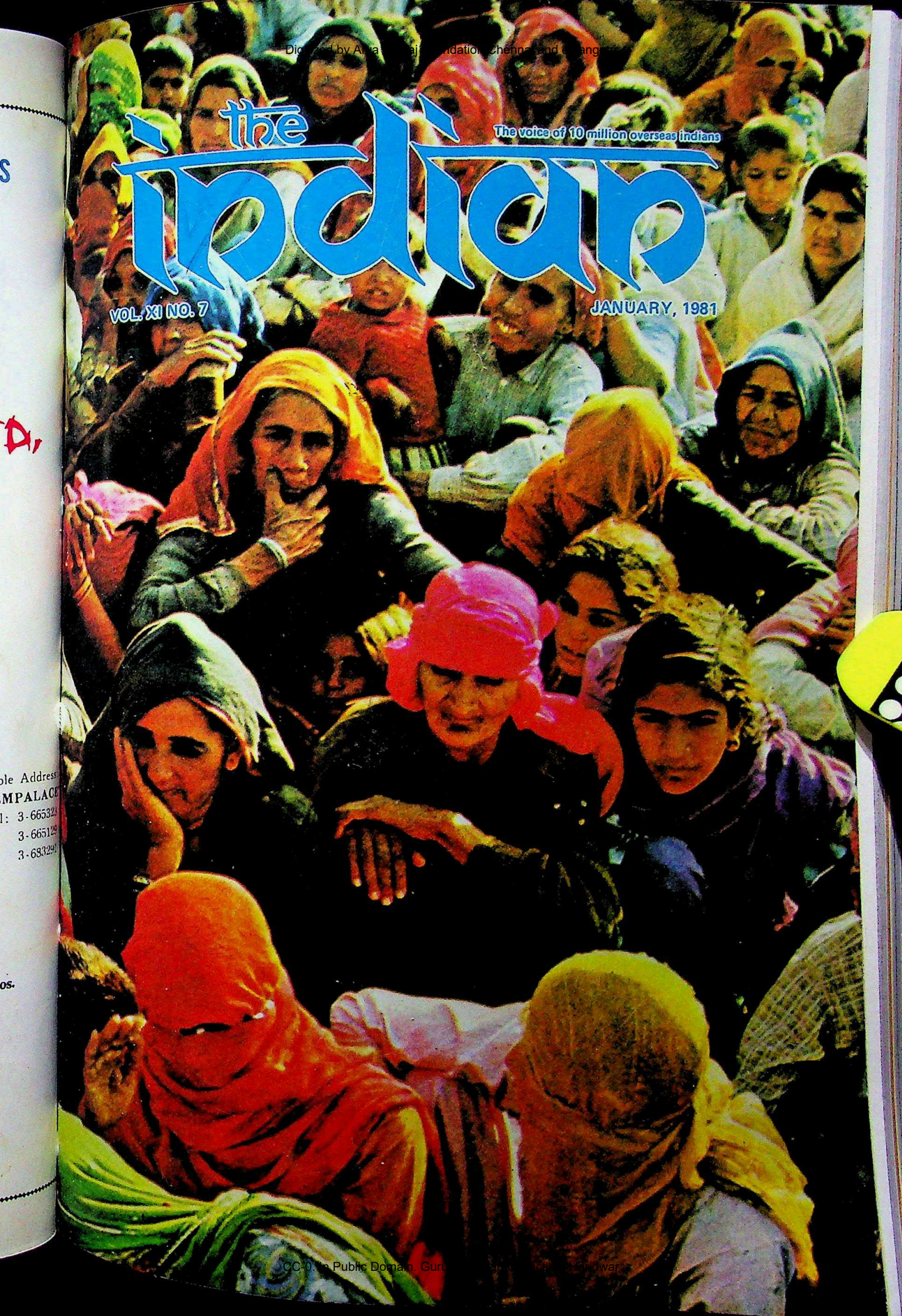

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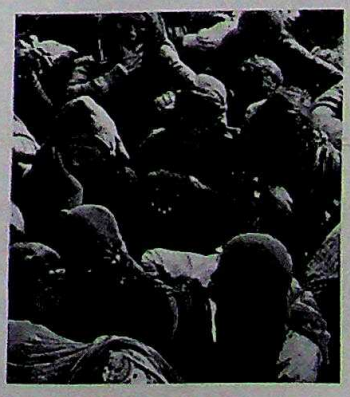
Samaiki

10 JUL 1981

Fund For The Blind

The United Nations Organisation (UNO) has declared the year 1981 as THE YEAR OF THE DISABLED and has called upon all governments and people of the world to do something special for the disabled persons during these 12 months. We have decided to focus attention on the BLIND IN INDIA. For U.S.$10 a blind can see again. It costs just that much to restore a blindman's eyesight. As the first programme we want to collect funds for the Blind in India. We request you to sponsor eye-operations and send us money in multiples of ten: the number of blind persons to be cured. The money will be passed on to the Indian National Association For the Blind and in due course you will be informed about the job done. The cheques may be drawn favouring "Fund for the Blind" and mailed to us. We hope you will contribute in this Dharma programme.



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Rear View

A PAIR OF EYES FOR TEN DOLLARS

India has 9 million blind which is one fourth of the total blind in the world. Of this, 5 million are cataract cases which can be cured by a simple operation. 40,000 children under the age of 6 years go blind every year due to malnutrition.

India also has the world's largest programme of eradication of blindness. Nearly 0.6 million eye operations are performed every year but the backlog continues to accumulate. Similarly, massive efforts are being made to prevent nutritional blindness among children but enough is not being done.

Why is the preventable blindness increasing? There are many reasons. A blind person should come to a hospital for operation but many do not come. The main reason is poverty. Although operation and bed are given free, a patient must pay about Rs. 16 for food during 8 days stay at hospital. Bus/train fare of Rs. 2/- is further expense. And they do not have Rs. 18/- to spare. Then a blind person must be accompanied by a sighted person to reach the hospital and stay with him. The escort loses earnings for eight days which a family may not be able to afford. If the blind happens to be a woman or an older person who are generally non-earners, the family attaches little importance to whether they have vision or not. Regarding blind children, they are brought to a hospital and cured through nutritional diet and doses of vitamin 'A'. When they go back home, they loose eye sight again because family cannot afford to provide nutritious diet.

To overcome these difficulties, Eye Camps are held where eye surgeons alongwith their equipment go to villages and operate on the spot. The additional cost per operation is Rs. 72/- For children, a blind child alongwith his mother is brought to a hospital centre. The child is given treatment and mother is taught how to prepare a nutritious and balanced meal out of the food stuff which she normally buys and uses at home. The cost again is Rs. 72/- per child. But India does not have enough money for this extra spending.

Now consider this. The cost of restoring eye sight is under U.S.$10 only. The price of a pair of eyes is 10 dollars. A blind man can see again for 10 dollars. Can you help! Is there a bigger Dharma than making a blind man see again, and at such a low cost. Come forward and call up your editor for making your gift.

— K. N. Vaid

REMITTANCES FROM INDIANS ABROAD

Remittances from Indians abroad which buttressed India's foreign exchange earnings have been shrinking of late and giving cause for concern in official quarters. Before the current financial year, Indians working or settled abroad had been sending sizeable sums in foreign exchange, through official and non-official channels, to their folks back home and these formed a major chunk of India's "invisible receipts" which also include earnings from tourism and shipping.

Well before the current financial year (March 1980-April 1981), the incoming foreign exchange from Indians abroad, had touched the all-time peak of Rs. 4000 million in January 1980. The total remittances received between April 1979 and January 1980 stood at Rs. 25,810 million, against Rs. 17,430 million in the corresponding period of the previous year. Thereafter there was an appreciable decline chiefly due to the crackdown by the oil-rich Gulf Sheikhdoms on the entry of Indian job-seekers without valid travel documents, and this downward trend was further gravely complicated by the Iran-Iraq hostilities that sent many a scared Indian packing home from the war-torn area.

In this atmosphere, the incentives to Indians abroad to increase their remittances from abroad are not bearing any usufruct. Further incentive packages contemplated by the Government of India will not bear fruit unless the Middle East returns to normalcy. As for Indians settled in other countries, the Indian authorities can rest assured that they will continue the vital flow of foreign exchange. Non-resident Indians are solicitous as before to invest in Indian industry up to a maximum of 20 per cent of share capital of the project that interests them. And, as is already apparent, they are increasingly making use of the official channels for remittances.

— Somnath Dhar

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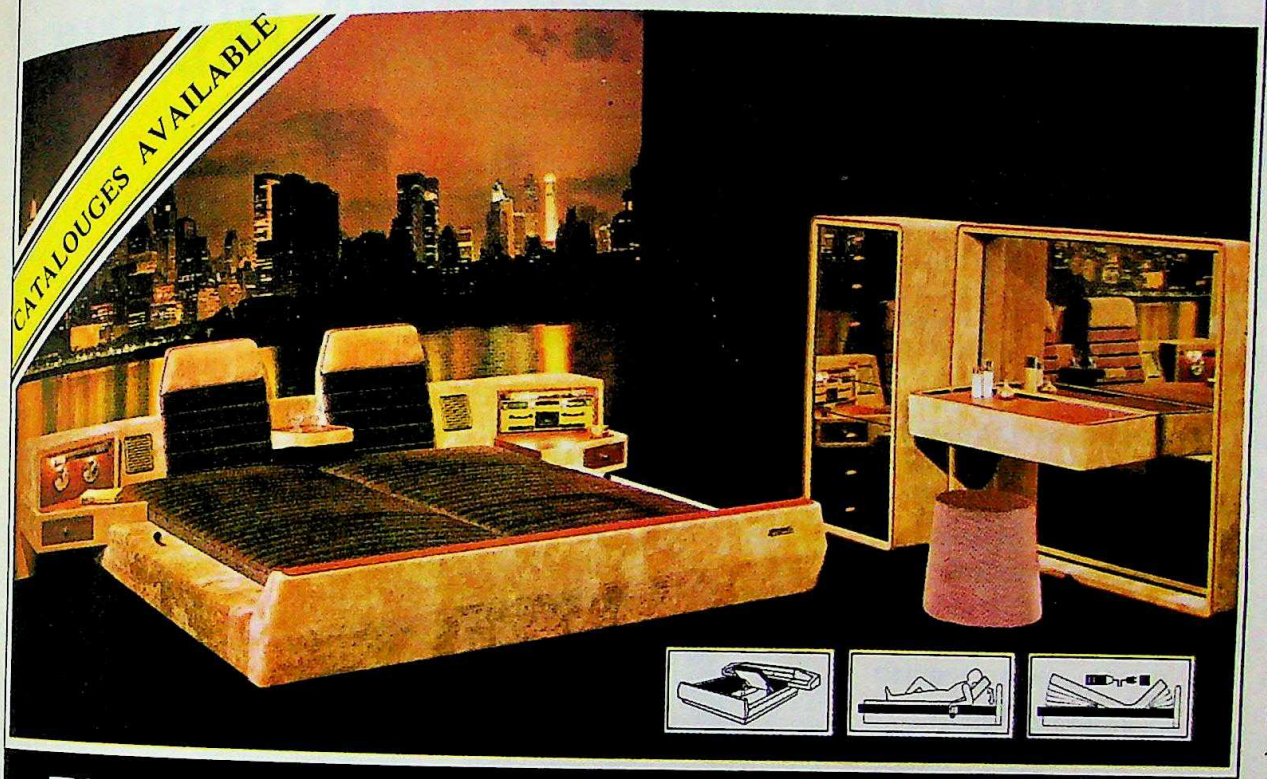

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PRINCE CHARLES CHARMS INDIANS

By Somnath Dhar

The heir apparent to the British throne, Prince Charles, visited India on the invitation of the Government of India. The 11-day visit, from the moment of his arrival at the Delhi airport, on November 26, 1980, when he was received by the Vice-President, M. Hidayatullah, was a big success. Indian journals came out with special articles and supplements focussed on the British connection – the legacies it left in the form of parliamentary democracy and the English language – and how the British left us as friends and continue to remain as such.

The Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, hosted a lunch in honour of Prince Charles. He was lionised in the three metropolitan cities, Bombay, Madras and Calcutta, and Bangalore, etc.

KISSED IN BOMBAY

Prince Charles visited Shantaram's famous Rajkamal Studio in Bombay and got kissed by actress Padmini Kolhapure. As he appeared at the doors of a set on which a Hindi movie "Ahista Ahista" (slowly) was being shot, old-time actress Shashikala, who acts in the film, welcomed him with the traditional "arti" and applied a "tilak" on his forehead. An enthusiastic Padmini Kolhapure, the heroine of the movie, immediately rushed up to him and smacked him on the cheek – leaving a print of her lips clearly defined on his fair skin. The Prince blushed and asked his enthusiastic fan, "Do you do it (kiss) on the screen also"? "No, Never. It is not permitted on the Indian screen. But it was my first kiss – do you mind?" "Oh, not at all," Prince Charming assured her.

PRINCE CHARLES WELCOMED

India's Vice-President, Mr. M. Hidayatullah is receiving His Royal Highness Prince Charles at Delhi Airport as he arrives in a British Airways plane. On V.P.'s left is Mr. Narasimha Rao, Minister of External Affairs. On the left are seen Dr I.P. Singh, India's Deputy High Commissioner in Britain, and the British High Commissioner in India, Sir John Thomson.

The veteran director-actor Shantaram took the royal visitor round his studio, showing him trophies he had won for his numerous movies, and screened a reel of his film, "Jal Bin Machchli, Nritya Bin Bijli" (fish without water lighting without dance). He also presented him with a silver emblem of Rajkamal Productions –

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woman rising out of a lotus to offer flowers to the sun.

GOODWILL

Enjoying a swim at the Golden Beach, 60 km from Madras, the Prince displayed a keen interest in the architecture of the Mahabalipuram Rock Temples. The Mahishasuramardhini Temple, the bas relief of Arjuna's Penance and the Shore Temple were the highlights of the Prince's visit.

The royal visit generated a lot of Indo-British goodwill. The demonstrations against the visit by students at Delhi, Bangalore and Calcutta, protesting against racial discrimination in Britian, were peaceful. The Prince took these in his stride, never losing his cool.

Before his departure for Kathmandu, on December 6, Prince Charles said at the British Council in Calcutta that he was highly impressed by the country and its people. Expressing his gratitude for the affection he received from the people, he said he found Indians interesting and exciting. Earlier, he met Mother Teresa at Shishu Bhavan. He said it was "unbelievable that the Mother feeds 7000 people every day."

Before reaching Shishu Bhavan, Prince Charles visited St. John's Church in the lawns of which lies buried Job Charnok, who founded Calcutta city in 1690, and the Hallwell Monument, to commemorate the alleged 18th century "Black Hole tragedy." The monument was originally sited in front of the State Secretariat

WONDERFUL VISIT

He next went to the Victoria Memorial on the Maidan. He went round the Royal Gallery and the miniatures on life in India over the last two centuries.

Prince Charles, arriving in Kathmandu on a seven-day official visit, was given a royal reception at the airport and welcomed in traditional Nepalese style by "Panchkanya" (five daughters).

The 32-year old Prince, in military uniform, struck the light informal note by chatting with members of the Nepalese Council of Ministers and individual members of the diplomatic corps.

When introduced to the Indian Ambassador, Mr. Narendra Jain, Prince Charles asked him to convey to the Government of India his "gratitude for the wonderful visit there and for being so well looked after throughout."

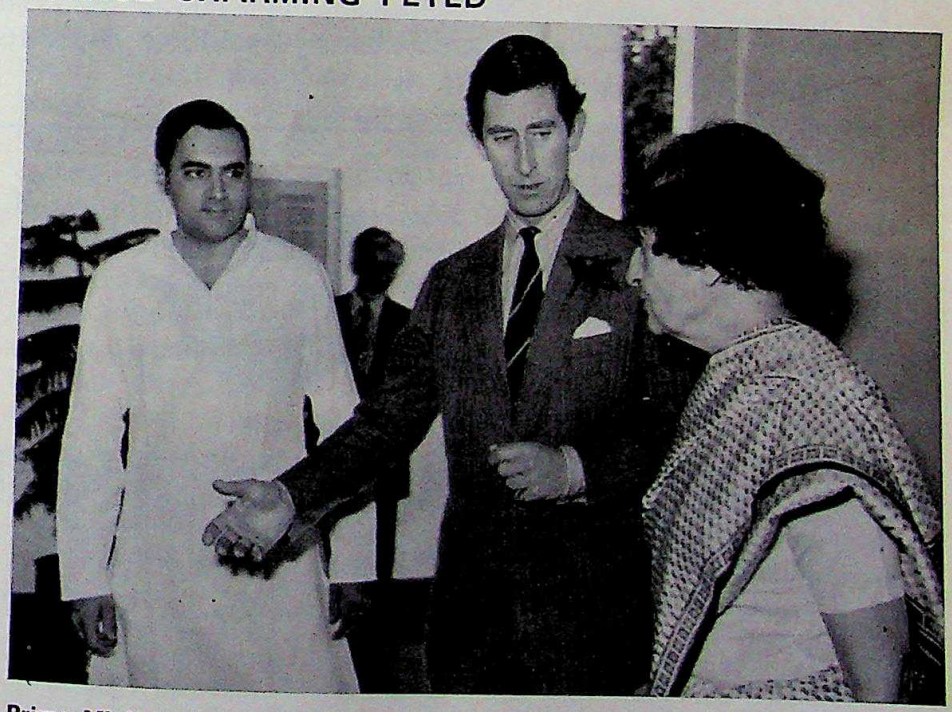
THE ROYAL MESSAGE

I am particularly delighted to be able to visit India at this time. My brief stop-over in 1975 whetted my appetite to see more of your fascinating and beautiful country and its people. The United Kingdom's affection for and close associations with India are deeply-rooted in the past and continue to flourish. Not least among the things we have in common are our democratic systems with their shared heritage and our membership of the Commonwealth. Both facilitate close contact in a vast range of political and economic matters at all levels, official and otherwise. Through our aid programme — now and for many years the largest bilateral aid programme to India — we have tried to co-operate with India's development plans. This year we shall give about £120 million (some Rs. 216 crores) for development projects. Through commercial and industrial links also, I believe we have a full part in the success story of India's technological and industrial position in the world. Britain leads the league table of foreign industrial collaboration agreements with India. She is India's third largest trading partner. Britain has much to offer India for the future-collaboration in third country projects, provision of the latest technological advances in many many sectors as well as a market for Indian goods.

The Indian community in Britain has enriched many sectors of British life and helped create an increasing awareness of, and interest, in Indian culture. The Festival of India to be held throughout Britain in 1982 will bring Indian music, dance, art, and industrial design to many British people who are not as fortunate as I am in being able to see them at first hand.

All these factors augur well for the future warmth and stability of Indo-British relations in the years ahead.

PRINCE CHARMING FETED



Prime Minister Indira Gandhi hosted a luncheon in honour of Prince Charles. Her son, Rajiv Gandhi, is seen on the left.

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The Wild Bunch

Flamboyant, unreliable, vagrant, mythical, rowdy. That is the typical Hindi film star. The flamboyance is born of an oversized ego—which has always spelt trouble.

The most common excuse put forth by stars for their rowdy behaviour is "Our heart rules our head. We are emotional people." But observers think differently. They claim that the higher a star goes, the lonelier he becomes inspite of being constantly surrounded by people who tend to push him into a totally unrealistic world. It is then that the star refuses to see reality. Since he can derive no satisfaction from his work due to stereotyped roles, an hourly shift system and personal tension, he concentrates on the accumulation of money.

But a smooth and sophisticated exterior hides inflammable timber which could produce fireworks at the drop of a hat.

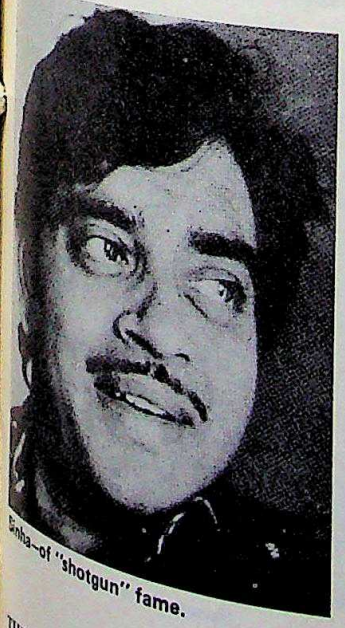
Brawls often follow extended booze sessions at mid-night film-land parties.

Feroze Khan can hardly deny the numerous occasions when he has lived upto his gun-toting, brawler image in full view of curious bystanders. Once, he let all hell loose because a friend had the temerity to enquire about his sister. On a shooting stint at Madras, Feroze and Dharmendra yelled at each other and exchanged choice abuses for no good reason. Feroze had merely passed a remark on Om Prakash during a booze session. That was enough to enrage a reportedly bleary Dharam.

Rowdyism is generated by fights between the stars and the press too. The late Shanta Apte known for her militant roles in Shantaram films and off-screen firebrand temperament made history when she rushed into the cabin of Film India editor Babu Rao Patel and lashed him with a cane.

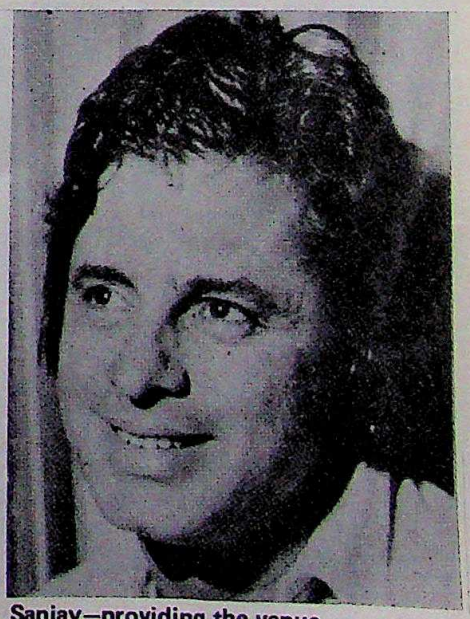
Dharmendra's animosity towards Devi, the columnist and attack on Krishna, a journalist is now well known.

Recently, a star producer nearly came to blows with a journalist on the lawns of a five star hotel in Bombay following a hot exchange of views on each others careers. The famed producer had taken umbrage for having been categorically reminded that he had started his career on a Bombay footpath. Simmering with anger and in a quivering voice, he wanted



Sinha—of "shotgun" fame.

Dharmendra—journalists are anathema.



Sanjay—providing the venue.

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to know if that was a disqualification.

During the shooting of "Trishul" in Delhi, some hot-blooded youngsters thought of "taking revenge" when they spotted Shetty, the big bad man of the screen and challenged him openly to a fight. Shetty, who was quite taken aback, declined the challenge politely whereupon the young group called him names and urged him to show his manliness.

FEARSOME BRAWLS

That evening's damage to the hotel room chairs, tables and the rest of the furniture including window-panes of several rooms was enormous. A number of foreign tourists mistook the event for a film shooting. Very often the legal repercussions of the rowdy behaviour of stars are hushed up because of the political connections of the stars. Thus inspite of the serious dimensions assumed by the reported Shatru-Prakash Mehra shoot out at Sanjay Khan's residence in Juhu, it was brushed under the carpet soon after the incident.

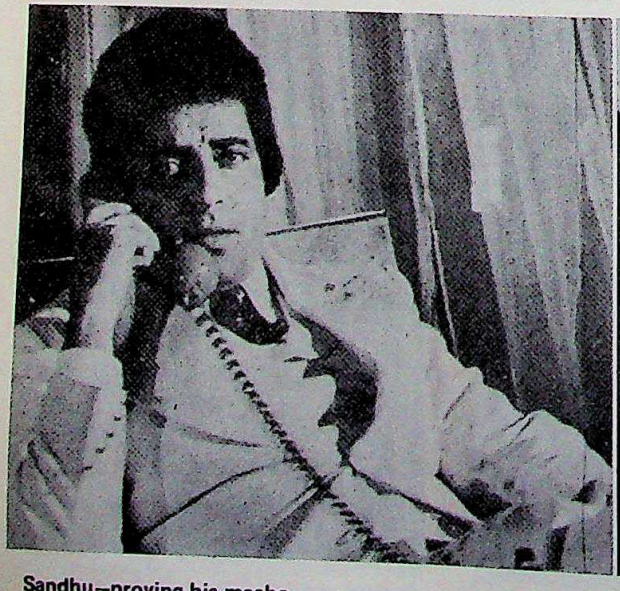
Some stars start brawls just to keep up their image or for fear that if they do not react to a particular situation in a certain way, they may have to pack their bags and leave Bombay in disgrace. An example of this is Mahendra Sandhu's conduct with Asha Sachdev during the shooting of 'Agent Vinod'. Asha was making fun of Sandhu along with her friends and this was distracting Sandhu who felt irritated and asked Asha to leave him alone. But when Asha paid no heed he gave her a verbal warning. During the lunch break which followed shortly thereafter, Asha blocked Mahendra Sandhu's way and asked him "Tell me what will you do to me?" Sandhu merely asked the unit members to take her out of his way as she was irritating him. Asha then abused Sandhu in choice terms and became hysterical. To soothe his macho Mahendra Sandhu hit her hard and sent her rolling on the ground. Subsequently, a fight ensued between Asha's bodyguards and Sandhu with chairs and other studio furniture flying around.

Premnath—salvation through pleasure.

Sahani—letting off steam.

Drunken rows have also been responsible for break-up in relationships. A case in point is that of Helen and Satish Kaul. On the rebound from her long, tortuous affair with P.N. Arora, Helen went headlong into an entanglement with Satish Kaul that turned into a nightmare of tears, threats and scandals. Initially she had no objection to being seen with him but later due to a glare of publicity, she insisted on withdrawal and it was then that a rift set in.

A row or brawl may also take place owing to tremendous psychological pressure on a star. A brawl serves to give vent to pent up feelings and pressures. It was such a state that led Parikshat Sahani to yell loudly at his neighbours recently when their driver and the car owner's cronies refused to move



Sandhu—proving his macho.

Sachdev—hysterical outbursts.

Helen—tortuous affairs.

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their car from the centre of the road. Sahani banged his fist through the window panes of the car and set himself up for further action by picking up a boulder and throwing an open invitation for a fight.

Then of course, we have very many other forms of rowdy behaviour. You may find Om Prakash at a party beating the metal dish containers with the biggest spoon around in a bid to draw attention to the fact that it is high time the host served food. In a drunken state he may go to the extent of abusing the host. At such moments, the other guests carry on with their small talk. Some however, prefer to rally round Om Prakash and egg him on to his endeavours to make a din.

DRUNKEN REVELRY

Then of course we have Premnath's mid-night parties. His complete 'darbar' is present at such occasions including a number of starlets and his sadhu mandali which apparently believes in 'moksha' through pursuit of pleasure.

Then there is Raj Kapoor who engages in his own form of drunken revelry. When in his cups, he can abuse anybody, say whatever comes to his mind and indulge in crude behaviour. Also, he can over react to even the slightest hint of criticism.

Directors and producers by and large tend to put up with the rowdy behaviour of stars. Only a handful have the resilience and guts to stand up to them.

Veteran actor Dilip Kumar who is notorious for interfering with directors work was threatened in his "Azad" days at gun point in a closed room by a famous producer of Madras who refused to tolerate any interference from his leading man. The producer who made it clear that "a ninth murder would not make any difference to me", let Dilip out of the room only when he received full and categorical assurance that he would never again interfere with script to direction.

Director H.S. Rawal took recourse to a much milder albeit equally effective plan of action while dealing with the same star. Dilip had insisted on a song sequence being picturised in a certain ways—his way. Rawail let him have his way but subsequently made it clear – that he would shoot the sequence again and the better of the two versions would be released in the film. Reshooting the sequence meant an additional expense of a couple of lakhs of rupees but Rawail proved his point beyond shadow of doubt when he held a screening of the two prints for all the unit members and friends.

During the shooting of "Satyakam,", Sharmila Tagore had started troubling Hrishikesh Mukherjee who does not usually like being trampled on. So one day when Sharmila turned up for shooting a good three hours late, Mukherjee promptly cancelled the shooting. Sharmila thought this was done to spite her purposely whereas he was really in no mood to shoot that day. Anyhow, Sharmila decided to take revenge on the famed director. With this in view she came to the sets the next day and after a couple of rehearsals told the unit members with her impish smile that she had forgotten to tell them but she had to leave early. Mukherjee lost his temper and said to Sharmila, "You want to go, isn't it? Okay, try it. I am standing at the gate. Can you see this stick? It's okay if my film is shelved. But today, I will show the industry how a director dealt with his heroine. You try to leave the sets and I will break your leg!"

STAR TANTRUMS

In an equally unyielding manner Basu Bhattacharya dealt with Uttam Kumar during the shooting of "Grihapravesh." Uttam Kumar inspite of having given dates to Basu abstained from shooting on the plea that his mother had a nasty fall from the staircase the morning he was to leave Calcutta

Dilip Kumar—privileged veteran.

Raj Kumar—temperamental.

Gulzar—asserting himself.

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for his first shooting schedule in Bombay. But as it turned out, this was a blatant lie told by Uttam Kumar to adjust his shooting dates for other Hindi film producers in alignment with dates for Basu's film so that he could shoot for all his Hindi films at a stretch. Uttam Kumar also insisted on seeing the script even though the original agreement clearly spells out the artiste will have nothing to do with the script. When Basu stuck to his guns and refused to show the script, Uttam made himself inaccessible and wanted Basu to deal with his secretary. Now Basu deals with no ones secretaries and he had made this clear in the very beginning. Subsequently, Uttam told Basu through letters, his secretary and even personally that Basu will have to put up with this sort of behaviour as Uttam was after all a star and that stars had their own ways of conducting business.

At this stage, Basu threw out Uttam Kumar from his film and signed Sanjeev Kumar instead inspite of the fact that he had already spent all his money amounting to a couple of lakh of rupees while shooting with Uttam in the lead. And for a small producer that is a lot of money to throw away. He also informed Uttam that he shoots only with actors and not stars in his films.

Sharmila—cut to size.

Rekha—making enemies.

Similarly, Gulzar too threw out Rekha from his film 'Namkeen' when she threw a tantrum upon spotting a journalist on the sets. Gulzar refused to throw out the journalist as he was a guest whereupon Rekha insulted Gulzar by packing up. Gulzar phoned her home and told her not to come on his sets ever again.

There is also the case of producer K. Razdan against temperamental actor Raj Kumar. Razdan recently filed a suit in the Bombay high court claiming over Rupees one crore and twenty thousand as damages over the film actor. Razdan has stated that Raj Kumar has refused to cooperate in the completion of the picture thus holding it up for many years.

In yet another instance, Raj Kumar suddenly stopped shooting for a producer and when asked the reason said, "I do not like your face and it is unbearable for me to even think of working with you around for a period of two or more years." That's star logic for you.

– Courtesy: Surya

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TEA TALK

By Ravi N. Kaul

Tea adds a lot to our enjoyment of leisure, friendship, sociability and conversation, whatever view teetotallers might hold.

Tea tasters in Calcutta, one of the world's largest tea markets, say that we virtually know nothing about tea and the palate is distinctly dormant. The more people you get drinking it, the lower the standard of quality becomes. It happened with wine and it's happening with tea now.

The connoisseurs have generally regarded a cup of pale tea as the best, but still fail to make the grade. In the Calcutta Tea Traders' Association Digest, nearly 200 words are used to define the appearance, smell and taste of tea. In the taster's parlance, a tea can taste soft or brassy. It can look whiskery or knobbly and smell chesty or cheesy.

Speaking of tea as drunk by connoisseurs and not as generally served by the shopkeepers, to drink alone is called secluded; to drink between two is called comfortable; to drink with three or four is called charming; to drink with five or six is called common; to drink with seven or eight is called philanthropic.

To pour tea around again and again from a big pot and drink it up in a gulp, or to warm it up again after a while, or to ask for extremely strong taste would be like farmers or artisans who drink tea to fill their belly after hard work, it would even be impossible to speak of the distinction and appreciation of flavour.

In a true tea-lover the pleasure of handling all the paraphernalia is such that it is enjoyed for its own sake. The art and technique of the enjoyment, then, consists of the following:

First, tea being most susceptible to contamination of flavours, must be handled throughout with the utmost cleanliness and kept apart from wine, incense and other smelly substances and people handling such substances.

Second, it must be kept in a cool, dry place, and during moist seasons, a reasonable quantity for use must be kept in special small pots, best made of pewter-foil, while the reserve in the big pots if not opened except when necessary and if a collection gets mouldy, it should be submitted to a gentle roasting over a slow fire, uncovered and constantly fanned, so as to prevent the leaves from running yellow or becoming discoloured.

Third, half of the art of making tea lies in getting good water with a keen edge; mountain spring water comes first, river water second, and well water third, water from the tap, if coming from dams, being essentially mountain water and satisfactory.

Fourth, for the appreciation of rare cups, one must have quiet friends and not too many of them at one time.

Fifth, the proper colour of tea in general is a pale golden yellow and all dark tea must be taken with milk or lemon or peppermint, or anything to cover up its awful sharp taste.

Sixth, the best tea has a 'return flavour', which is felt about half a minute after drinking and after its chemical elements have had time to act on the salivary glands.

Seventh, tea must be freshly made and drunk immediately, and if good tea is expected, it should not be allowed to stand in the pot for too long, when the infusion has gone too far.

Eighth, it must be made with water just brought up to a boil.

Ninth, all adulterants are taboo, although individual differences may be allowed for people who prefer a slight mixture of some foreign flavour (e.g. jasmine or cassia).

Tenth, the flavour expected of the best tea, is the delicate flavour of a 'baby's flesh'.

Ironically enough, the high standards of tea tasters are rarely adopted by tea-drinking public. Tasters need an encyclopaedic knowledge of the product and have to become quality conscious.

Drinking from a saucer . . . a queer tea drinking habit by many Indians.

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Growing Indian Investment In Indonesia

The overseas Indian community in Indonesia is beginning to play a significant role in the country's industrial growth. This is the conclusion drawn in an Indonesian study of investments in the country by Indian firms or firms of Indian origin.

The study by Mr. Thee Kian Wie notes that official data published by Indonesia's capital investment coordination board list only four ventures resulting from direct Indian investments up to December 1978. The equity contributed by Indian partners amounted to $2.6 million (about Rs. 2 crores), and by Indonesians $1.05 million (Rs. 81 lakhs). Inclusive of loans, the total investment envisaged was $9.5 million (Rs. 7.3 crores).

Mr. Thee argues that his tabulation seriously underestimates actual involvement because of "different interpretations of what actually constitutes Indian investments". Basing upon figures supplied by the Indian embassy and the Economic Cooperation Association of India and Indonesia, he says that direct Indian investment amounts approximately to $76 million (Rs. 59 crores) spread over 24 ventures.

PROJECTS PLANNED

Mr. Thee says that as projects now being planned begin to be implemented, "Indian direct investment in Indonesia is expected to reach the quite considerable figure of $180 million or 200 million (Rs. 140 - Rs. 155 crores). He argues that Indonesia may surpass Malaysia as the host country of the largest number of Indian joint ventures abroad.

Of the 24 ventures in Mr. Thee's list, 10 are sponsored by people of Indian origin. All the 10 are in textiles which he says is only to be expected "considering that many merchants of Indian origin in Indonesia are textile merchants". Another six of the remaining 14 are in textiles too.

The second industry which has attracted Indian interest is metal fabrication. There are four units

NEIGHBOUR VVIPs

H.E. the President of the Republic of Indonesia, Mr. Suharto, accompanied by Mrs. Tien Suharto, was on an official visit to New Delhi. The communique issued at the end of the 4-day visit revealed identity of interests in many matters.

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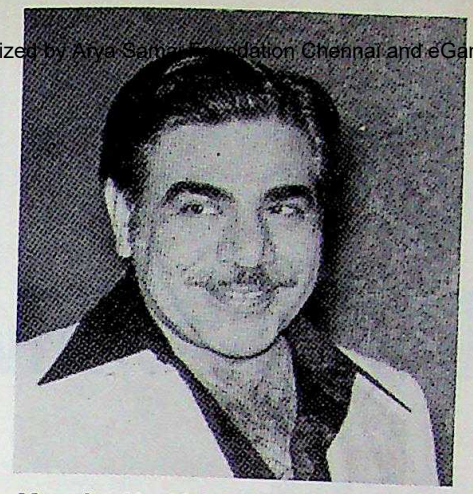
producing light engineering goods with an average investment of two million (Rs. 1.55 crores). The sole Indian unit in the paper industry, sponsored by the Thapar group in collaboration with local Indian interests, is by far the largest of Indian joint ventures with a total investment of $9 million (Rs. 7 crores).

Mr. Thee, a research associate at the Jakarta-based National Institute of Economic and Social Research, notes with surprise that the 24 Indian ventures employ among them 7,000 to 7,500 workers, supported by an expatriate staff of 150 to 160. "This is quite a sizable number if compared with only 45,191 Indonesian workers employed by no fewer than 203 Japanese joint ventures."

The outlook for expanding these collaborative arrangements is promising because of two reasons.

First, the "over-presence" of Japanese investment in Indonesia is a matter of "considerable public concern" – as Mr. Thee points out.



Mr. A. H. Melwani, Chairman of P. T. Five Star Industries – A multi-million U.S. dollar intergrated textiles project approved by the Indonesian government set up in Bandung.

Indonesia is keen to diversify sources of investment and is assiduously wooing American and European investors who account for about 12 per cent each of the total foreign stake in the country, compared with Japan's 40 per cent. To an extent India can help in this diversification, it is welcome to do so as Indonesian officials have said again and again to visiting Indian dignitaries.

The second and more solid reason to expect vigorous expansion of Indonesian investment is the interest now being shown by New Delhi in securing access to the rich natural resources Indonesia has to offer. Sponge iron based on abundant natural gas and paper based on huge timber resources are two possibilities that have been discussed between the two governments in the last two years.

"PAN" BECOMING POPULAR IN MIDDLE EAST

Betel leaves worth Rs 230 million were exported from West Bengal to the Middle East last year. According to Mr. N.L. Pakrashi, director of marketing, State Agriculture Department, the countries to which the leaf is exported are mainly Iraq, Iran, Jordan and Saudi Arabia. He said that Mitha Pan, Chanchi Pan and Bangla Pan had become famous in these countries.

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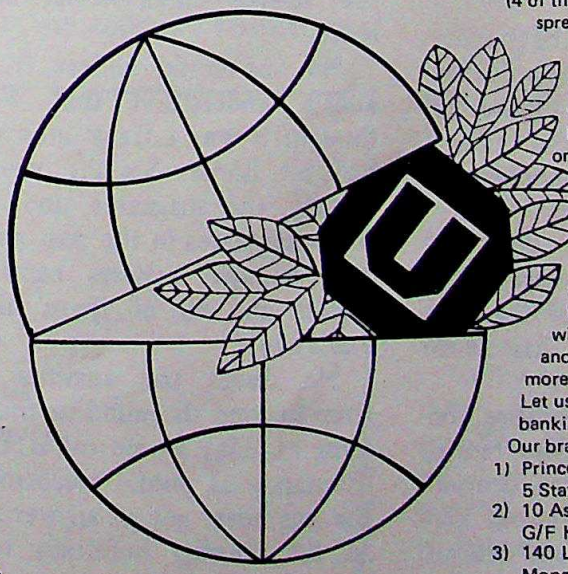

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THE HUMAN COMPUTER

By Kul Bhushan

SHE'S the world's most calculating woman. And because of her gift of numbers, she has seen 116 countries round the globe and met a string of celebraties enough to fill 'Who's Who in World Today' – Nehru, Nixon, King Hussein, Ava Gardner, Yehudi Menuhin, Omar Shariff, Indira Gandhi, Albert Rene and on and on. She has met them all.

Her mind does not merely dally with figures. She has also written half a dozen books ranging from cookery to mythology, from children's stories to astrology. Yes, she is the Houdini of mathematics, the wizard of numbers, 35-year old Shakuntla Devi, who flew into Kenya recently.

The next edition of 'The Guiness Book of Records' will probably list her remarkable feat of beating a computer at the Imperial College of Science and Technology in London three months ago.

Yet she has never been to school. She began to display her extraordinary abilities at the ripe old age of three and has never stopped.

She was casually flicking the pages of a magazine after lunch, when I requested her to demonstrate these qualities. Without lifting her eyes, she asked my date of birth. As I uttered it, she gave me the day of the week without wasting even a split second. The quick fire answer unnerved all in the room.

No one could believe it. Shakuntla understood that we all thought it was a freak shot which had hit home. So she went on reading the magazine and asked for other dates in the past and the sure enough answers came like bullets and all of them hit the bull's eye!

No doubt the answers come from beyond the mind or the sixth sense as many would call it. During thousands of public performances, she has never got an answer wrong so far. During hundreds of TV appearances, she again got them all correct.

But what use is this unique quality? I asked. "Astrology," she answered, "That's where you need the exact science of numbers. I come from a family of astrologers for many generations. I make horoscopes, personal charts and even business company forecasts. And like my other sums, I have never got any prediction wrong!"

Born in Banglore, South India, in a poor Brahmin family of traditional astrologers, Shakuntla never went to school but learnt English from her father in addition to a number of Indian languages.

It all started when she was three years old. Shakuntla manifested an extraordinary love for numbers,

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and by the time she was five years old, Shakuntla became an expert in complex mental arithmetic. Problems that took learned men hours to solve she could solve within seconds. While six-year old Shakuntla demonstrated her talents at the University of Mysore to a large gathering of students and professors of the University. The little girl worked out the most complicated arithmetical calculations with lighting rapidity and scienctific precision, and kept the assembly spellbound for two hours.

To collect funds for her sick sister, Shakuntla sailed to Europe in 1950. In London on the 5th October, 1950, the BBC presented Shakuntla to the television viewers of Great Britain. Shakuntala gave quick answers to problems posed by the BBC, but when further questions were given, the little girl challenged the problem as set and said it was worked out wrongly. Mr. L. Mitchell, the BBC's interviewer, did some quick checking and confessed that Shakuntala was right and the BBC wrong!

At the University of Rome one of her answers to the problems was found to be wrong by the calculating machine. But after rechecking, it was found that the machine had made the mistake and not Shakuntala!

Unfortunately, her sister died and Shakuntala built a school in her memory and donated it to the Goverment to manage.

In Sydney, Australia, Shakuntala matched her wits against an £80,000 computer "Utecon" of the University of New South Wales. Questions were set by the well-known professors Mr. R.G. Smart and Mr. Barry Thornton, the chief mathematicians. Seconds before the complete questions were fed to the computer, Shakuntala had the answers. "It is frightening!" remarked Mr. Thornton.

Throughout her tours around the world, Shakuntala has performed in universities, colleges, schools, theatres and on television and radio with great distinction. She not only possesses an unique talent, but she has a great deal of charm and a very keen sense of humour. With her witty repartee and her humour she endears herself to her audience immediately she steps on stage. Those who consider numbers a dull and boring subject are pleasantly surprised to find her using numbers as a medium of entertainment.

In addition to "normal" maths problems, she said, she can do square and cube roots and logarithms in her head and recall the days of the week of any given dates in the last of the week from calendars long past, given the proper base information.

"I have to start with the simple problems first," she said. The first query, asking for the cube root of 13,824, was answered in a flash: "Twenty-four," she said.

Then came larger numbers: The cube root of 188,132,517? "Five hundred seventy-three." An assistant bank manager manipulated an electronic calculator. "Correct," he said.

Then came lines of eight and nine-digit numbers, which were added and then multiplied by a large number. Answers came in seconds.

Computer experts at Washington D.C.'s National Bureau of Standards bet that no human could outcalculate their prized Univac 1108 in 1977.

But they lost their bets as their technological robot lost out to the

There are some of the problems that Shakuntala solved in 20 seconds or less:

1. **Add: 25,842,278**
   111,201,721
   370,247,830
   55,511,315

   Multiply result by: 9,878

2. $\sqrt[3]{188,132,517}$

3. **On what days of the week did the 14th of each month occur in 1935?**

Answers:

1. **5,559,369,456,432**
2. **573**
3. **Beginning with January: Tues, Thurs, Thurs, Sun, Tues, Fri., Sun., Wed., Sat., Mon., Thurs., Sun.**

Books written by Shakuntala:

- **Perfect Murder**
- **Studies in Sociology**
- **Figuring the joy of numbers**
- **Go, Go Dancing Mule — Children's stories**
- **Gods and Goddesses of Indian Mythology**
- **Puzzles to Puzzle You**
- **Astrology for Millions.**

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powers of the human mind.

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In a matching of wits of women against machine, sari-robed Shakuntala solved in 50 seconds what it took Univac more than a minute to compute the 23rd root of a 201-digit number.

It took a professor almost four minutes to write the unpronounceabel number on the black board at a university of Washington.

As Shakuntala sat calmly on the stage, she glanced at the number once and chided the professor for writing a digit too far out of line.

Then she lowered her head, clinched her eyes together, concentrated momentarily and spouted off the answer almost faster than the professor could scribble it on the board.

"546372891", she soon answered as astonished academicians and students sounded their applause.

The Professors considered themselves lucky to have a number on the black board. It had taken long-distance calls on three computer centers before Dr. Ginsburg located a computer that could handle such a load.

Finally experts at the National Bureau of Standards agreed to programme their automatour Univac. Some 13,466 instructions and 4,883 data locations were fed into the machine. Not until an hour before Shakuntala's scheduled performance, did they arrive at an answer.

In fear that she could somehow have memorized the answers for every possible integer, they also commissioned the computer to figure the odds against her coming up with the correct answer. The odds were 58 million to 1.

Sighing with relief after overcoming the odds, she explained that she's always wanted to know how her own capabilities. But even more so, she was proud that she had vanquished a robot-brained machine.

"I wasn't trying to compare against the human's 10-and-a-half munites," she gloated, "I wanted to be quicker than the computer!"

OLDEST IN EAST

* * * * *

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Short Story

A Jakata Tale

THE OLD BRAHMIN AND HIS YOUNG WIFE

Long long ago, when Janaka was king of Benaras, there was in this city a poor Brahmin who lived on the alms given by the pious. He was in the habit of laying aside a portion of what he received and had, by the time he was old, a thousand pieces of silver as his savings. He now wished to go on a pilgrimage to holy places and so entrusting his money to another Brahmin, a friend of his, for safe custody he departed on his pilgrimage.

The Brahmin who received the money for safe keeping thought that he could make a good profit by investing it in some trading venture; so he set up a business in the city with the entrusted money, and as often happens with people who do business with other people's money, lost everything. As a result, when the pilgrim returned he was unable to pay back the money, and offered to the pilgrim in lieu his young daughter in marriage. The old man was delighted with the offer and married the girl.

The Brahmin lived with his bride in a village near the city of Benaras. But because of his old age, the man was no match for his young and lively wife and hence she developed an interest in a handsome young Brahmin youth who lived near by, and started an illicit affair with him. The young man became a regular visitor to the household when the old Brahmin went out on his begging rounds, and the woman loved his company and encouraged his visits. For as wise men have said of yore, the ocean can never be satiated with rivers, a fool with sins, a babbler with loose talk, a learned man with the scriptures, fire with fuel, and a woman with men.

The young woman and her paramour became, in course of time, inseparable and found the presence of the old Brahmin in his own house a nuisance, and

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decided to send him away to a far country and have the house to themselves.

So one day the young woman told her husband: 'My noble husband, I am quite tired of working in the house day and night. Pray get me a slave girl who will help me in the kitchen.'

'But my dear girl,' replied the old Brahmin, 'you know well enough that I am poor and what I get is but just enough to keep us alive; then how can I have money to buy a slave girl, and feed her into the bargain?'

'In that case,' suggested the woman, 'the best thing you can do is to go to some far off country of generous citizens and beg for alms; after collecting enough to buy a slave girl, you can come back, and we will live together happily for the rest of our lives.'

The old simpleton agreed that this was the best thing he could do for raising funds with which to buy a slave girl; so the very next day he left his house and went to a distant country, where people were reputed to be liberal to Brahmins.

The poor Brahmin went begging from city to city, from town to town, and from village to village, and after several months managed to collect seven hundred silver pieces which, he thought, would be enough to buy a slave girl for his wife. So with this amount he started on his way back home.

Travelling day and night he reached the outskirts of the city of Benaras one day by noon. As he felt hungry, he sat down under a tree that stood by the river, and ate his meal from the bag he was carrying. After the meal, forgetting to close the mouth of the bag, he went down to the river to wash his hands and rinse his mouth, and a black cobra that was watching him from a hollow in the tree, crept into the bag and settled on the remaining food in the bag. On coming back from the river, the Brahmin noticed that the mouth of the bag was open and so closed and tied it with a cord, not caring to look as to what was inside.

The Brahmin took the bag and flung it on his back to start his journey, when he heard a voice from a tree. It was the tree sprite uttering a warning: 'If you rest on the wayside for the night, you will die; if you reach home tonight, your wife will die.'

The Brahmin was alarmed by the warning and did not know what to do as, according to the voice, he was to die if he rested on the wayside for the night and his wife would die if he reached home that night. However, he started for the city, but on reaching it, did not go straight home because of the warning of the tree sprite. While wandering in the streets of Benaras, undecided about his next move, he heard that Senaka, the wise minister of the king, was giving a sermon in the public park. The Brahmin thought that Senaka would be able to tell him the meaning of the warning of the tree sprite, and so he proceeded to the park where Senaka was speaking. The Brahmin could not concentrate on Senaka's sermon as he was worrying about the warning voice he had heard, and so he stood away from the crowd, sad and sullen. Seeing the gloomy Brahmin, Senaka sent for him and asked him for the cause of his sorrow. On this the Brahmin told the minister all that had happened and of the warning of the tree sprite.

Senaka pondered over the whole thing, and in his supreme wisdom knew the meaning of the words of the tree sprite. He asked the Brahmin to produce his bag, and when this was placed before him he took a stick and beat it. The snake started wriggling in the bag and was eventually killed, when Senaka opened the bag and showed it to all present. 'What the good tree sprite had said,' remarked Senaka, pointing to the reptile, 'was perfectly true. If the Brahmin had rested on the wayside, he would have started to take his evening meal out of the bag, and the snake would have stung him; on the other hand, if he had reached home, he would have given the bag to his wife, and on her opening it, the snake would have killed her.'

Upon this, all the men praised the great wisdom of Senaka. The minister, out of pity for the poor

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Brahmin, gave him three hundred pieces of silver, so that with the one thousand he now had, he could easily buy a slave girl and have, in addition, something to lay by for a rainy day.

With the thousand coins, the Brahmin proceeded merrily to his house. But he thought it would be unsafe to keep all that money in his house, which was no better than a hut, especially as all the people in the park had come to know that he had a good deal of money with him; so, at night-fall he went to a deserted place, buried the money under a tree and then went home.

On reaching his house, his young wife received the old Brahmin with apparent joy. She asked him how much he had collected for the purchase of the slave girl and he told her that he had collected a thousand pieces, and had buried it safely under a tree. She now enquired of him the exact location of the tree, and he gave her all the details. That night, when the Brahmin was asleep, the paramour of the woman visited her. As the two talked, she confided to him all that her husband had told her, including the location of the tree under which the money was buried. The paramour forthwith proceeded to the tree, dug out the money and took it away to his house.

When next morning the old Brahmin went to the tree to dig out his treasure, he found that the place had already been dug up and the money stolen. Not knowing what else to do, he once again went to Senaka, the wise minister, and told him of the loss of his wealth. Sanaka, after patiently listening to all that he said, asked: 'Did you tell your wife where exactly you had buried the treasure?'

'Yes, I did,' replied the Brahmin.

'Did any one visit your house last night?' asked Senaka.

'None, as far as I know,' answered the Brahmin.

Senaka thought for a while, and then asked again: 'Do you or your wife have many friends?'

'Yes,' replied the Brahmin, 'both my wife and myself have many friends.'

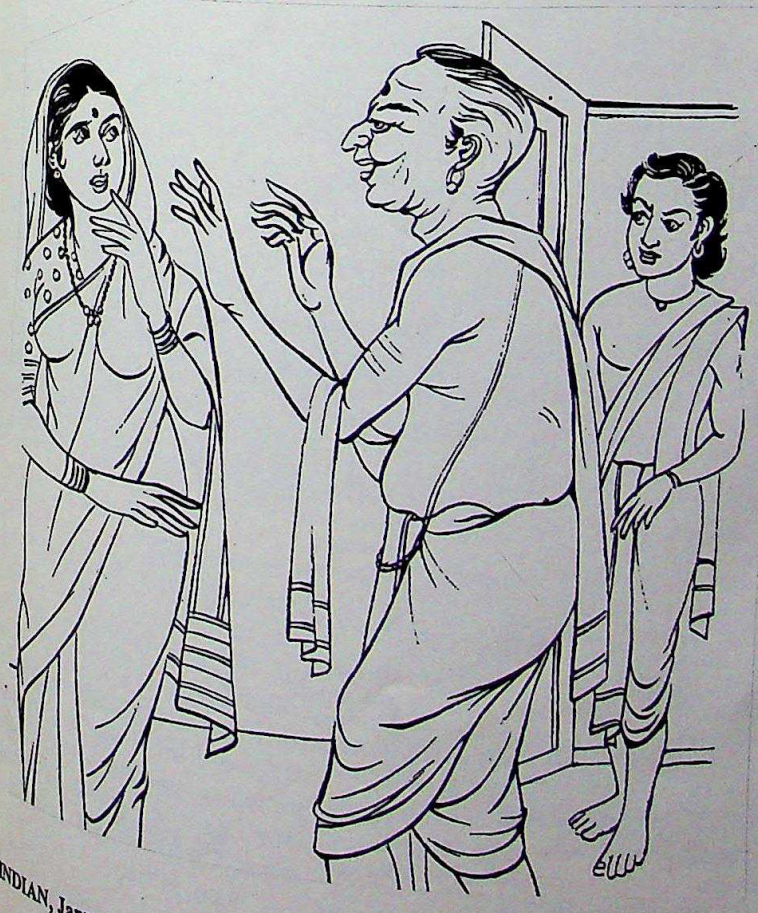
'In that case,' suggested Senaka, 'prepare a feast tomorrow and invite to your house fourteen male friends, seven to be chosen by your wife and seven by yourself. Continue to give the feast daily but reduce the guests by two every day, one from yours and the other from your wife's lists, so that on the seventh day you will have but two guests, one invited by you and the other by your wife. After thus feasting the guests for seven days, see me again and I will tell you what to do next.'

Senaka gave the Brahmin enough money for the feasts and sent him away.

The old Brahmin did as he was told. After seven days he went to Senaka and reported that he had carefully carried out all his instructions, when Senaka asked him: 'Do you know the name and address of the man who came to your house all the seven days as your wife's guest?' The Brahmin replied that he knew, and gave Senaka detailed information about the guest.

Senaka now sent for the man. He was none other than the young paramour of the old Brahmin's wife. Senaka started questioning him about the money. At first he pretended that he knew nothing about it, but soon he discovered that Senaka was too sharp for him, and under relentless cross-questioning, he contradicted himself and collapsed. Senaka pursued his advantage with vigour, and eventually the man made a clean breast of the whole affair. On this Senaka sent him, under guard, to his house, recovered the money he had dug up from under the tree, and gave it to the old Brahmin. As a punishment for his double crime of adultery and theft, the young Brahmin was banished from the city by Senaka.

Senaka now sent for the young wife of the old Brahmin and rebuked her. He knew, however, that rebuke alone would not help a young healthy woman married to an old simpleton, and so he made the Brahmin stay in a house adjoining his residence, and the couple lived happily under Senaka's fostering care.



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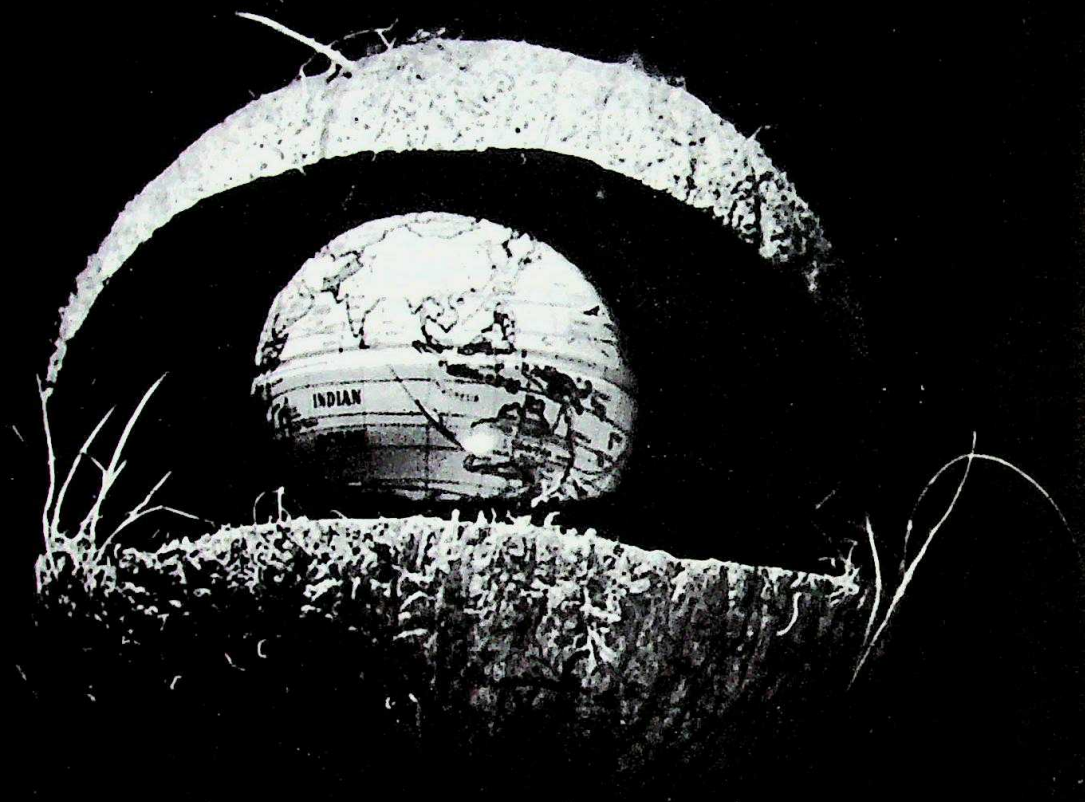

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DELHI'S FLOWER FESTIVAL

By Somnath Dhar

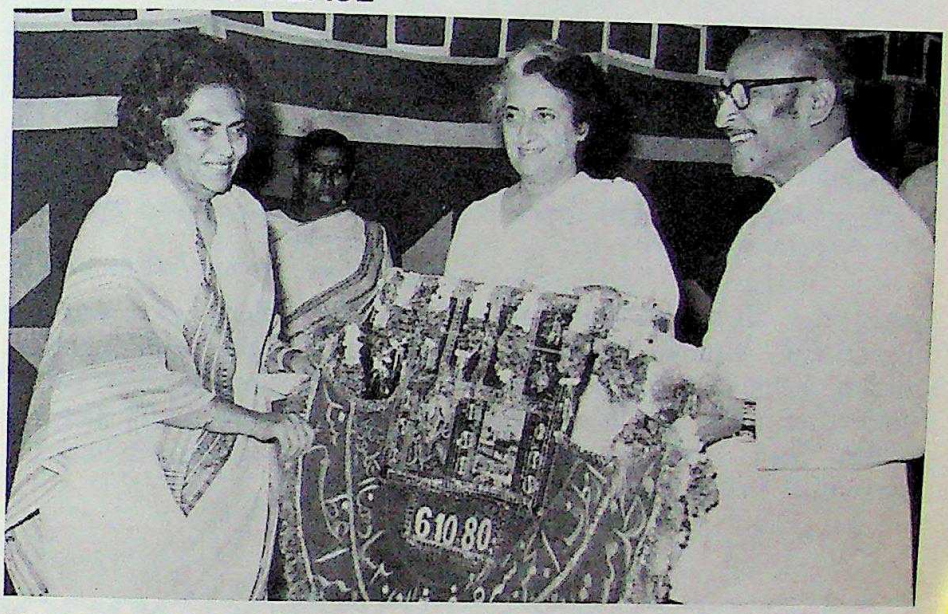
The colourful flower festival held annually in Mehrauli in October is a merry intercommunal festival. Going back to hundreds of years, it is called "Phool Walon Ki Sair" (Flowersellers' Saunter) or known by its Persian nomenclature "Sair-i-Gul Faroshan". Mehrauli, the small town surrounding the historic Qutb Minar monument, wears a festive look for the three days of the festival.

Every evening "Pankhas" are taken out in processions, led by musicians playing on *Shehnai* and other instruments. The "Pankhas" (flower-decked fans) are traditionally made with great care by the Hindu and Muslim flower-sellers. The processionists file past the Jog Maya temple and the mosques of the area, paying obeisance to the shrines. *Mushairas* (Poetic symposiums) and merry-making follow.

The intercommunal festival was a big event in the time of the Moghuls and the later Sultans, but was forgotten during the British era. It was the late Prime Minister, Mr. Jawaharlal Nehru, who revived it in the late forties, after Independence, and since then the "Phool Walon Ki Sair" is a festival, which is looked forward to by the Hindu and Muslim residents.

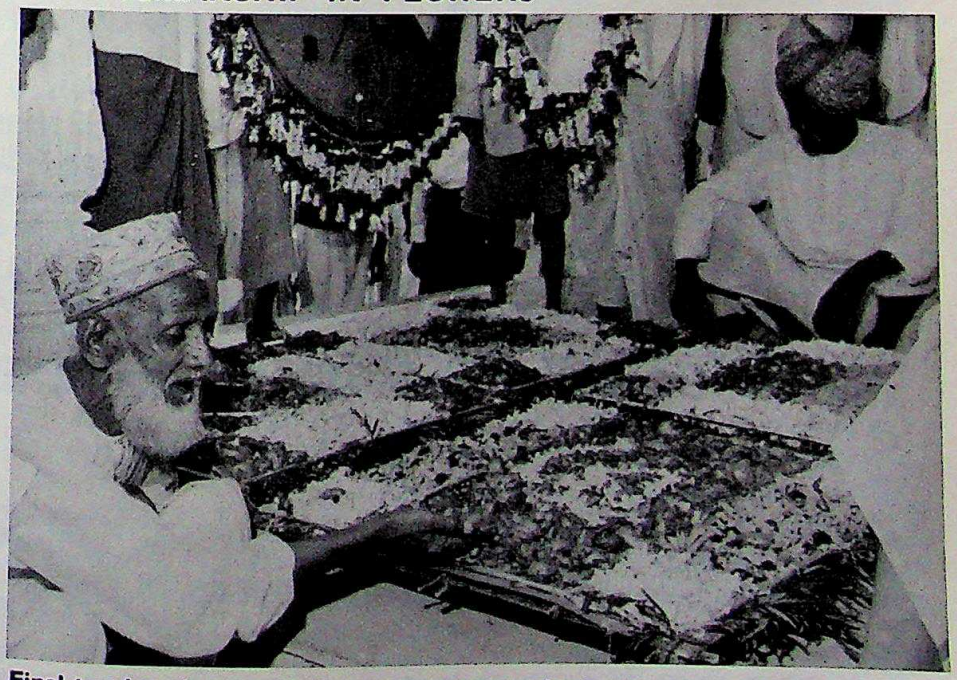
Symbolising Hindu-Muslim unity, the festival was celebrated with great gusto in Mehrauli and the nereby areas this year. At the start, a "Pankha" was presented to the Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi by the Sair-i-Gul Faroshan Committee, comprising among others, Mrs. Abida Ahmad, wife of the late President of India.

'PANKHA' OF PEACE



Flower-decked 'Pankha', symbolising Hindu-Muslim amity, presented to Prime Minister Indira Gandhi at the start of the festival. On the left is Mrs. Abida Ahmad, wife of the late President of India, a member of the festival committee.

CRAFTSMANSHIP IN FLOWERS



Final touches given to the flowery patterns on the 'Pankhas' by craftsmen, a Muslim and a Hindu.

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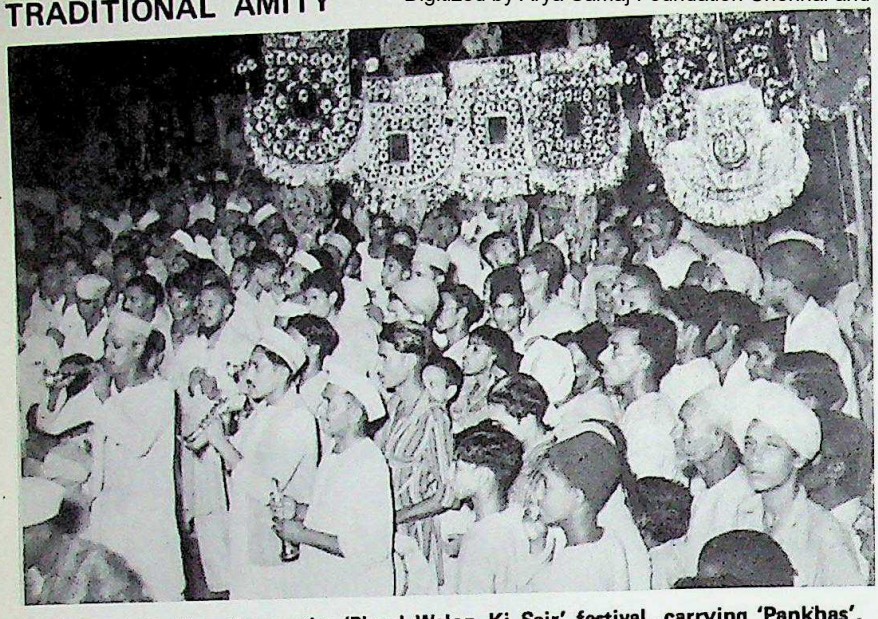

Hindus and Muslims throng the 'Phool Walon Ki Sair' festival, carrying 'Pankhas', led by musicians at Mehrauli.

Photos: PIB, New Delhi

Among the dignitaries to grace the occasion, held at the Jahaz Mahal in Mehrauli, were the Vice-President of India, Mr. M. Hidayatullah and the Lieutenant Governor of Delhi, Mr. Jagmohan.

The Vice-President, who was the chief guest at the main function, received the colourful procession of the "Pankhas" artistically designed by craftsmen belonging to both the communities.

Enrique, Gisepp Marry Sikh Way

CHANDIGARH, 80—Two foreigners sprung a surprise when they got married according to Sikh rites at a gurdwara here.

"We were so impressed by the teachings of the Sikh religion and the social welfare spirit that it imparts that we decided to make it a part of our lives." 31-year-old Enrique Garcia said after the ceremony.

A hotel manager by profession, Enrique met 28-year-old Giseppa Lettleri in Australia when she walked into his hotel as a tourist from Italy six months ago. "She was my customer," he said recalling with a thrill wirt large on his face.

Giseppa would return home to Italy not only married but also with a new name—Raminder Kaur.

Asked what her husband's name was, she said, "Sardar Gurinder Singh."

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Grandma's Cookery

FISH CROQUETTES

(WITH EGG SAUCE)

Ingredients:

4 medium-sized pomfrets.
1 medium-sized onion, finely-diced.
1 egg.
¼ cup milk.
Oil for frying
Dried and powdered breadcrumbs. Salt and pepper to taste.

For Egg Sauce

4 eggs.
½ cup butter.
8 tablespoons flour.
2 cups milk.
Salt and pepper to taste.
Tabasco, tomato sauce.

Method:

Stew the fish in salted water, remove the skin and bones and wash well. Fry the onions in butter till they are transparent. Mix with mashed fish. Add salt and pepper to taste. Put in 2 cups of the hot egg-sauce. Cook oil in saucepan till the mixture rolls away from the sides of the pan without sticking. Spread this mixture on a buttered dish to cool. Shape as desired either in cones or like cutlets. Roll it slightly in flour, then coat it with the egg and milk mixture (1 egg beaten with a ¼ cup of milk; 1 table-spoon oil and 1½ teaspoon salt). Dust with bread crumbs and deep fry till golden brown. Drain and serve on the left-over egg sauce, streaked with a dash of tabasco and tomato sauce.

Egg Sance:

Melt butter in a saucepan. Put in the flour and cook, stirring till the mixture is golden in colour. Gradually stir in the hot milk. Cook for 10 to 15 minutes, till the sauce is smooth and thick. Add salt and pepper to taste and the egg yokes. Beat, separately, a full egg and add to the mixture. Allow to simmer for a few minutes on a slow flame.

CHARLES CHICKEN

Ingredients:

3 medium-sized chickens, cut neatly into generous helpings.
250 gm. garlic cheese (grated).
400 gm. small white mushrooms.
100 gm. shellots or small white onions.
1 cup dry white wine.
6 large-sized tomatoes, pureed.
6 eggs, well beaten.
1 cup fresh cream.
4 to 6 sprigs of parsley.
Juice of 10 lemons.
6 tsp. white pepper.
1 cup corn flour.
A few sprigs of mint.
Salt to taste.

Method:

Marinate the chicken pieces for at least one hour with salt, lemon juice and white pepper. Saute the marinated pieces in butter on a slow fire till they are half-cooked. Drain, coat them generously with cheese, then lightly dip them into the beaten eggs and roll in flour. Fry the coated pieces in melted butter for atleast ten minutes till they are golden brown. Saute the mushrooms and white shellots, drain and keep aside. In 2 tablespoons of butter, add the tomato puree, allowing it to simmer for 5 minutes, slowly adding the wine. Cook for five minutes until the wine is reduced by half. Add cream and left-over cheese. When the sauce thickens slightly, add salt and pepper. Arrange neatly on a flat serving dish, placing the mushrooms and shellots around it. Pour the cream sauce before serving and garnish with finely chopped parsley.

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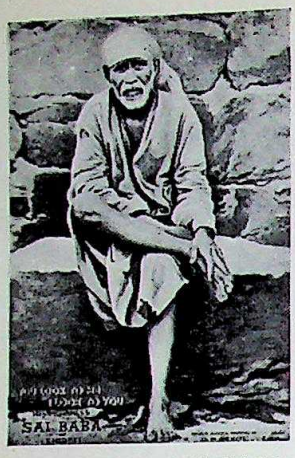

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RAJNEESH GROUP'S SHAKESPEARE PLAYS IN DELHI

Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh

Rajneesh Theatre Group, one of the many activities of the disciples of Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh at the Rajneesh Foundation, Pune, came to Delhi with its two productions of Shakespeare's plays, "A Midsummer Night's Dream" and "Twelfth Night", which were performed at the Mavlankar Auditorium recently. Characterised as "a creative expression" and "a natural consequence of meditation" in the glossy literature produced by the affluent Foundation, the plays received acclaim from the theatre critics, who specially praised the sets and costumes designed by the Sannyasins, which term includes both men and women disciples.

The creativity of the Sannyasins also includes beautiful craftwork such as handmade musical instruments, jewellery, weaving and pottery, orchestra, a choir, a fashion department as well as magazines and books galore, which all were on show at the lobbies of the auditorium.

The Group consists of people from Britain, Australia, New Zealand and Canada, now designated as Swamis (men) and Mas (women) in the Ashram. They were previously connected with stage, TV or film. Directed by Swami Anand Anurosh (formerly Hugh Armstrong, connected with the Royal Shakespeare Company and other theatre companies of U.K.), the well-knit team brought professional expertise to the productions which were spectacular. Swami

SHAKESPEAREAN 'FAIRY'

Puch (Swami Anand Narendra) with one of the fairies (Ma Prem Sadhana) in a capricious scene from Rajneesh Theatre Group's production of William Shakespeare's magical comedy romance, 'A Midsummer Night's Dream', performed at the Mavalankar Auditorium in New Delhi recently.

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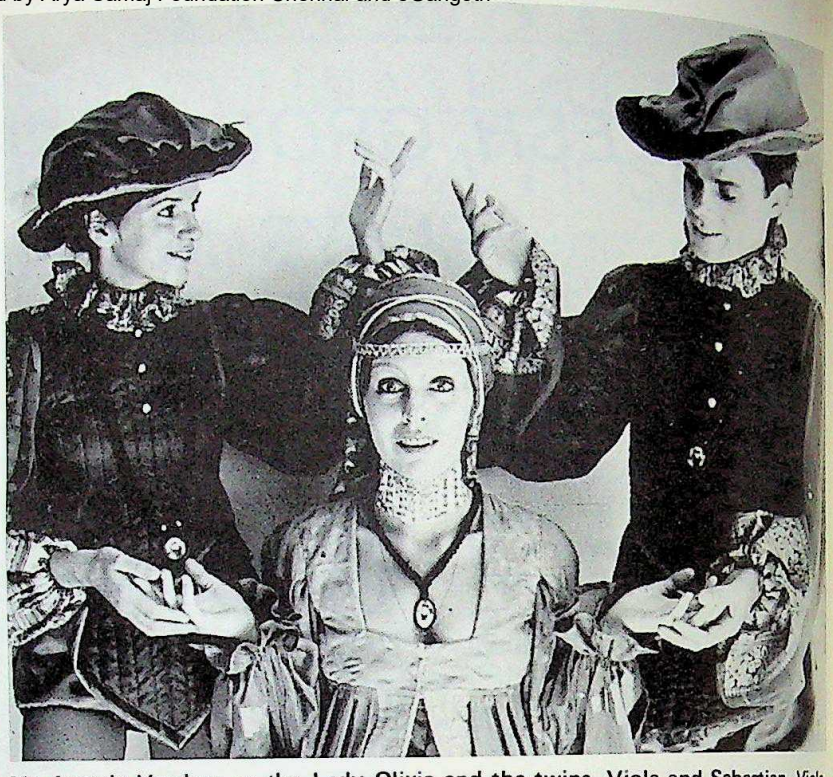
'TWELFTH NIGHT' IN DELHI

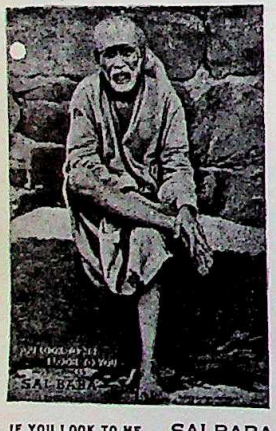
Anand Narendra as Puck in "A Midsummer Night's Dream" and Orsino in "Twelfth Night", Ma Alima as Viola in "Twelfth Night" and Hermia in "A Midsummer Night's Dream", were outstanding among the performers. The dream sequence in "A Midsummer Night's Dream" was imaginatively handled, as were the stage effects in the other play.

Swami Krishna Prem handling the press office was courteous and obliging. During the interval, we had a happy surprise in meeting Professor Vasant Joshi, Ph. D. (whom we knew at Berkeley), selling magazines and books produced by the Rajneesh International Meditation University. He is now named Swami Satya Vedant and is the University's Chancellor. It is the first university in the world in which meditation is used as the basis for all fields of academic enquiry. Diplomas like Bachelor of Meditation and Master of Meditation are awarded. The courses are open to all.

– Somnath Dhar



Ma Ananda Vandana as the Lady Olivia and the twins, Viola and Sebastian. Viola, left, is played by Ma Alima and Sebastian by Swami Anand Vimal in Rajneesh Theatre Group's production of William Shakespeare's bawdy comedy 'Twelfth Night', performed at the Mavalankar Auditorium in New Delhi recently.



IF YOU LOOK TO ME I LOOK TO YOU.

SAI BABA OF SHIRDI

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※ ※ ※

IS SAI BABA LIVING AND HELPING NOW?

BY

H. H. NARASIMHASWAMIJI

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From Filmland

ACTOR TURNS ASCETIC I.S. JOHAR'S TRANSFORMATION

The well-known Indian actor, who has excelled in India and abroad in humorous roles, I.S. Johar (believe it or not!) has turned a Sanyasi. He wasn't ever a religious person but, says he, on the night of November 4, 1979, something happened to him, that changed the course of his life. As he puts it, "Supernatural Saint Aakashi, estimably as old as Time out agile as a 20-year old, mysterioudy appeared before me." The saint performed some "astounding miracles" and then "vanished in thin air" before the dazed eyes of Johar. Comedian Johar adds in all seriousness: "At the Saint's command, I have become a vegetarian, teetotaller, donned saffron robes and I have made it a mission of my life to help the suffering." And, then, the astounding aftermath:"Since then hundreds have miraculously benefitted by his blessings through me."

I.S. Johar, the comedian turned saint.

Photograph of Aakashi Baba from a painting made by a famous artist, to whom the Baba appeared in his dream.

I.S. Johar doesn't stop there. The erstwhile irrepressible humorist-character actor says: "The Baba will appear in your dreams and miraculously solve your ONE PROBLEM if you follow these directions." The directions include prayer to Aakashi Baba, for next nine Sundays, from 7 a.m. to 7.15 a.m., at which time, we are told, Johar himself will be involved in the same spiritual exercise.

The Baba devotee has to avoid Non-vegetarian food, drinks and sex during these nine Sundays. Birds or animals should be fed with the hands of the devotee. Then, adds Johar, the final tip to "create mental communion between you and the Baba and to help more people." The devotee should insert the following ad. under his or her name in any local paper: "I gratefully pray to I.S. Johar's supernatural saint Aakashi Baba. Only those in serious trouble should write to Johar at 23, Lotus Court, Churchgate, Bombay-20" The final piece de resistance is: "Continue your normal life, prayers and medications, etc."

— Somnath Dhar

FILM ON SANJAY PLANNED

Film producer S. P. Chaturvedi announced his plan to produce a film on the life of the late Sanjay Gandhi.

Mr. Chaturvedi told newsmen in lucknow that Sanjay Gandhi symbolised the youth of India and his life was therefore a fit theme to be filmed.

The film, he said would be launched on the next birth anniversary of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

The story and script of the film, according to him, have been submitted to Information and Broadcasting Minister Vasant Sathe for approval.

He said that although the film was estimated to cost Rs. 2 crore, he would not seek any financial assistance from either the Central or State Government.

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RAM-BALRAM — HOW MANY FIGHTS HO RAM!

That is the only way to describe Producer Tito's Ram-Balram. Of course, the fights are justified as they are meant for destruction of smugglers.

Ram and Balram are (infact cousins) in deep love with each other like real brothers. To control the length of the film they lose their fathers all of a sudden. One Mr. Jagatpal takes the responsibility of looking after the two. But how? He sees to it that Ram becomes a thief and Balram a Police Officer with an obvious intention of acquiring the help and protection for his business — smuggling! By the way, he intends to be the top smuggler in India.

By hook or crook the story is taken to Goa where Jagatpal tries to include the two in his own business. But, no sooner Balram wears a Police dress than there is a drastic change in his self. Ram joins him and the two bring about the decay of the bad ones.

As a rule, in the meanwhile, Ram & Balram run into love affairs for the sake of goodwill towards the audience.

Ram (Dharmendra) gets Madhu (Zeenat Aman) while Balram (Amitabh) goes for Shobha (Rekha).

Both Zeenat & Rekha, do not do anything more than to look pleasant. Zeenat must have made it a rule that she ought to be shot in water, a swimming pool in this case.

(Dharm must have felt the extra weight round her waist)

And, since we have two heroes, there are four bad-men doing anything from smuggling diamonds to selling girls. Consequently we have fights which include cars, mobikes, ships, choppers, horses and what not.

Ajit (Jagatpal) has the most of the scope and he fulfils the expectations with a vehement performance.

The smuggler does not seem to bother about the man in uniform — Dharmendra, Ajit and Amitabh in Navjivan Film's Ram — Balram. Story — Kamleshwar. Direction — Vijay Amand. Others in cast include Zeenat Aman, Rekha, Sujit Kumar, Amjad Khan and Prem Chopra.

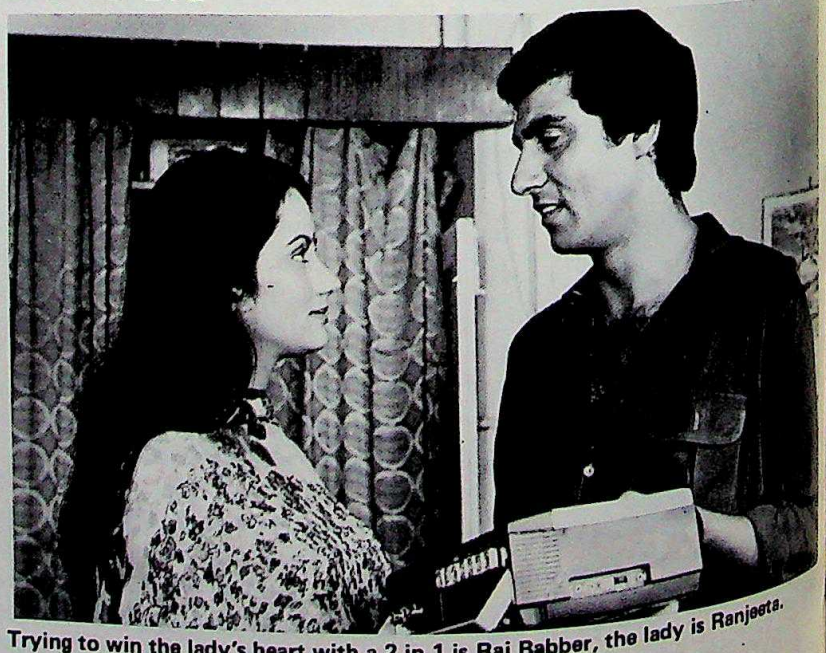
Vijay Anand writes the screen play and directs the film as well. Kamleshwar writes the story — a hold all!

"Ek raasta aha..", "Chahe achha kaho chahe bura..", though not feathers in the cap of Laxmi-Pyare, are good songs.

Cinematography by late Fali Mistry is superb. In short, it's good movie for those who see the movie for the sake of seeing a movie! Otherwise it can be called honestly, a get together of top stars!

And for a punter's kind information, it is learnt, that two teen-agers were killed and one injured in an attempt to get tickets for the movie at Bhopal.

EYE TO EYE



Trying to win the lady's heart with a 2 in 1 is Raj Babber, the lady is Ranjeeta.

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Anarkali Is Back

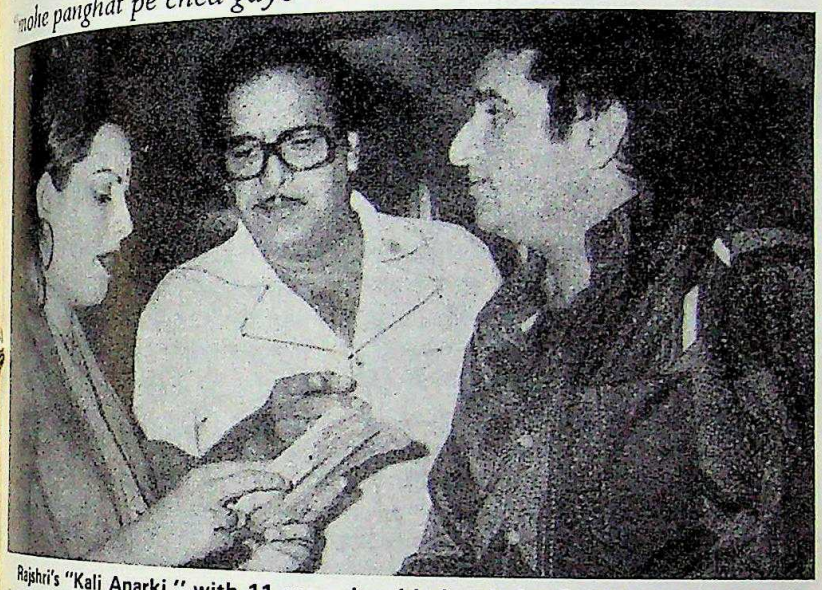
The theme of Anarkali has been swaying the cinegoers' hearts for decades.

Bina Roy came first and the theme was repeated within a decade, with greater success, as 'Mughal-e-Azam' with Madhubala.

Will the screen history repeat itself? Ranjeeta is the next Anarkali to come to us as "Kali Anar Ki".

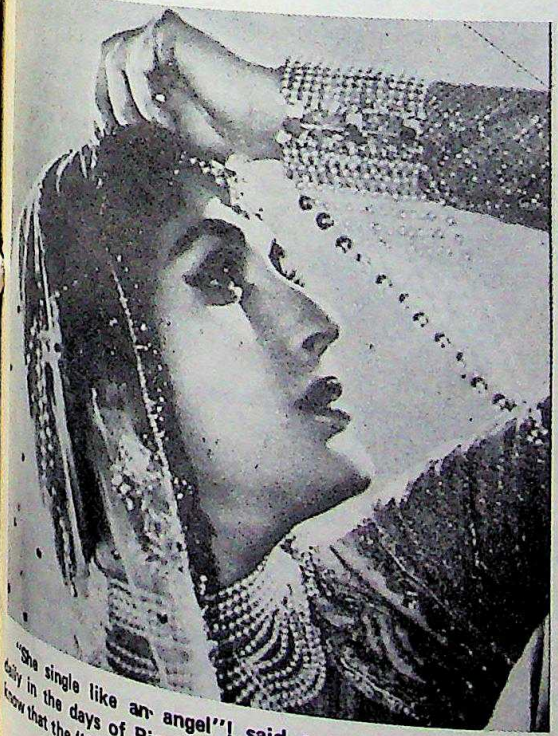
Can she match Madhu? Or can Sulakshana match Lata?

Can there be a tune to match "yeh zindgi usiki hai" or "mohe panghat pe ched gayo"?



Rajshri's "Kali Anarki," with 11 songs is a big break for Sulakshana Pandit. The singer is seen here with director Kanak Mishra and talented new composer Rajkamal. Can it be an "Anarkali" of Rajkamal as it was of Naushad and C. Ramchandra?

Ranjeeta as "Kali Anar ki". She will, naturally, invite comparison with Madhubala and Bina Roy. Ranjeeta, experts say, should fit in the role, having already played Laila with success.



"She single like an angel"! said a prominent London daily in the days of Bina's Anarkali. They surely, did not know that the "Angel" part was Lata and not Bina!

Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, Naushad recalls, was so impressed by "mohe panghat pe" that he came more than once to see it picturised. (Bhutto was then an Indian citizen)

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Tours & Travel

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IAAI COMPLETES HULUE RUNWAY

The International Airports Authority of India has built a 2500-metre long runway at the Hulule airport, enabling this coral country of Maldives to go in for widebody airbus and boeing 707 traffic.

According to an authority spokesman, the runway was completed before the October 31 deadline. Work on the terminal building is at present held up because of certain modifications by the consultant engineers in the final plans which are yet to be given to the authority.

It is expected that the total project, costing Rs. 8.6 crores, would be over by March. The authority has completed construction of fuel farm, Air Traffic Control (ATC) tower, and water supply systems, which constitute over 90 per cent of the overall work.

NEW TOURIST COMPLEX FOR MUSSOORIE

Mussoorie, popularly known as the Queen of Hills is one of the most charming hill stations in India. Besides being a place of tourist attraction it is the only region in the country with a full view of the famous Doon Valley. Flanked by the Ganges on one side and the Jamuna on the other Mussoorie is an ideal base for treks to places like Harki Dun, Yamunotri, Dodital, Gaumukh, Kedarnath, Gani-Khatling Glacier, Kaddukhal and Deoprayag-Rishikesh.

To facilitate the tourists in Mussoorie, the Tourism Directorate of Uttar Pradesh has taken up a five million rupee multi-purpose project to develop a tourist complex that will provide economical accommodation, shopping and other recreational facilities. Work has already started on the complex, its first phase when completed will provide 100-bed accommodation.

For potential visitors and trekkers to this region, Air India has recently brought out a multi-coloured folder (with city map) on Mussoorie. This is available free of cost from all Air India offices as well as from the Manager Treks and Mountaineering, Air India, Hansalaya Building, 5th floor, Barakhamba Road, New Delhi 110001.

BUS SERVICE TO PONDICHERRY

The Thiruvallavur Transport Corporation has introduced a super deluxe bus service on the Madras-Pondicherry route via Chingleput, Mudurantakam and Tindivanam. The bus leaves Madras at 0900 hrs

If you can't beat them, join them and that's what Air-India's famous mascot, the Maharajah, did in Poona with Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh followers. Following Bhagwan's message of 'Let Yourself go', the Maharajah donned his own 'mala' and took on saffron clothes to signify his commitment to Bhagwan's philosophy. For him, it has really been worth the effort since Air-India has been raking in millions from the Rajneesh followers who fly in to India and on to Poona from all corners of the globe. Air-India offices in Poona have been greatly expanded to cope with the increased 'Rajneesh' traffic and bookings. Even the hotels are fully booked right through the year by these dollar and sterling laden followers. No wonder the Maharajah is blissful.

— Photo: Kul Bhushan

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and 2100 hrs reaching Pondicherry at 1255 hrs and 0055 hrs respectively. On its return journey it leaves Pondicherry at 0200 hrs and 1400 hrs and reaches Madras at 0555 hrs and 1755 hrs respectively.

OLD IS NOT GOLD

Air hostesses, who make life so charming for trouble-racked airlines and their nervous passengers, are yet to lead a charmed life themselves. Shelved aside at 35 while their not so glamorous colleagues – air stewards – can tarry until the ripe old age of 55, these sexist service rules are still to be amended. Refusing to give an assurance to members in the Rajya Sabha that the senseless discrimination would be ended soon, Minister for Civil Aviation A.P. Sharma, is still collecting information about British Airways' rules. Perhaps Sharma is

unaware of equality of the sexes as guaranteed by the Constitution. An air hostess remarked and rightfully too: "Doesn't Mr Sharma know that like good wine air hostesses mature better than most?"

TAJ DATES: FULL MOON NIGHTS FOR 1981

January 20, February 19, March 20, April 19; May 19, June 17, July 17, August 15, September 14, October 13, November 12, December 11.

FESTIVAL DATES IN 1981

Dates of major Indian festivals and fairs in 1981 are given below:

Pongal/Paus Samkranti January 14; Floating Festival: January 21; Republic Day: January 26; Vasanta Panchami: February 9; Shiva Ratri: March 4; Holi/Dol Yatra: March 21; Gangaur: April 7; Ramanavami: April 12; Vaisakhi/Bengali New Year's Day: April 13; Good Friday: April 17; Easter: April 18; Pooram: May 12; Meenakshi Kalyanvi 14; Buddha Purnima: May 18; Ratha Yatra: July 3; Teej: August 2.

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Indians Abroad

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MAURITIUS

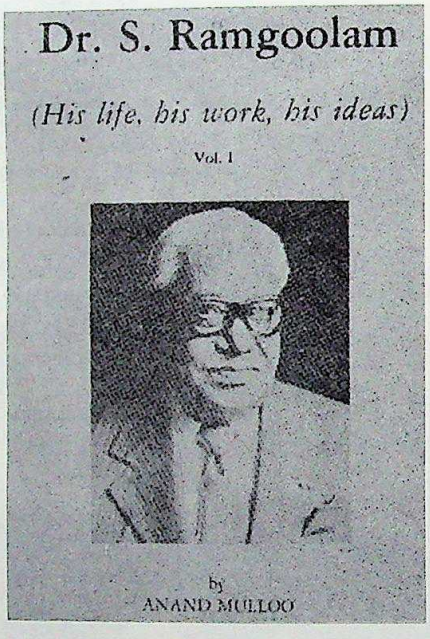
DR. S. RAMGOOLAM HIS LIFE, HIS WORK, HIS IDEAS

Anand Mulloo, poet and novelist has published a 116 page-book at Swan Printing on 'Dr. S. Ramgoolam, his life, his work, his ideas, Vol. I.' A second volume is under preparation. Its title will be 'Dr. Ramgoolam & Twentieth Century Mauritius'.

This new book has been written in a direct, precise, simple and interesting way so as to tempt readers. The work is presented in three parts whereas the 24 varied illustrations contain a schematised and vivid character. The first part deal with the childhood days of Dr. Ramgoolam, his studies in U.K. his political education and his first appearance in the medical field. The second part shows us Dr. Ramgoolam as a thinker and dreamer; whose political ideas have influenced the destiny of this country and the third part contain fragments from his writings and speeches.

Anand Mulloo has not just wished to retrace the life and career of Dr. Ramgoolam but to define the ideas of this State man who has shaped the local political climate since forty years. This man is no magician nor a legend but a precise theorist who transmit a real thinking system of recognised general politics.

In United Kingdom, Dr. Ramgoolam worked for the cause of



the Revival Movement in India. In 1924 he was nominated President of the Indian National Congress, where he participated to a series of campaigns which led to the proclamation of India's Independence in 1947. His friend-in-arms of those days were Vithalbai Patel, M. Gandhi, S.C. Bose and Saklal Vala. It's the latter who introduced him to the London branch of the Congress. Glowing socialist and revolutionary at first, he moderated with the Fabian's contact of which intellectuals like George Bernard Shaw, Beatrice Webb and Harold Laski were associated. It's this contact with the Fabians that modelled the systematic and political conception of Dr. Ramgoolam into a personal political system.

To understand the political personality of today, it was a must to return to the past; and Anand Mulloo does it with a good method towards the 24th page of his book. It has necessited to mention the great pioneers of Mauritian socialism, those who were the first members of the Mauritian Labour Party, to gloom a certain reading interest of a post-Independence personality.

PORTRAIT OF A KATHAK DANCER

Anna Patten, young and elegant appears to be a fantastic Kathak dancer, with her discreet and oriental charms.

She began dancing in her early childhood days at the School of Indian music and dance under the direction of Mrs. Nandkishore. Five years later, leaving academic studies, she flew to India where she enrolled to the Sriram Bharatiya Kala Kendra, reputed school of dance in India. She stayed three years there, under the direction of her 'guru' Shri Bhiju Mukherjee and great master Birju Maharaj of International fame.

The initiation program consisted of studies of sacred books from where all Indian classical dances are extracted. Physical exercises, yoga, facial expressions and finally the art of Kathak were all being taught there.

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YOUNG & ELEGANT

Anna Patten – a fantastic Kathak dancer.

Endowed for dancing, Anna Patten took only five months to excel in it. The proof was that she was chosen with other dancers to represent the Sriram Bharatiya Kala Kendra at the "Kamani Auditorium" of New Delhi for a program destined for students of the 2nd year.

On returning to Mauritius, she set out again for India in 1979 for an improving stage of two months. Returned to Mauritius in the same year, she gave three concerts at the Plaza Theatre, the Mahatma Gandhi Institute and the Port Louis Municipal Theatre.

Anna Patten affirms that Kathak is a true living dance for its spiritual and gracious rhythmic movements. She precised that Kathak is a synthesis of Mongol and Hindu traditions. The most delicate number in Kathak is "Jugal Bandi" the competition between the dancer and the tabla player.

Towards the teaching of Indian dance in Mauritius, Anna said that it is not widely organised and that many rural girls are not given the chance to bring forth their talents. She insisted that television should play an important part in the propagation of the real Indian classical dance and not the filmi-style

dancing.

Mauritius should be proud to possess a dancer like Anna Patten who may rise the rituals of Indian Kathak dance so as to promote her country's position on Kathak to international fame.

— Nasseem Ackbarally

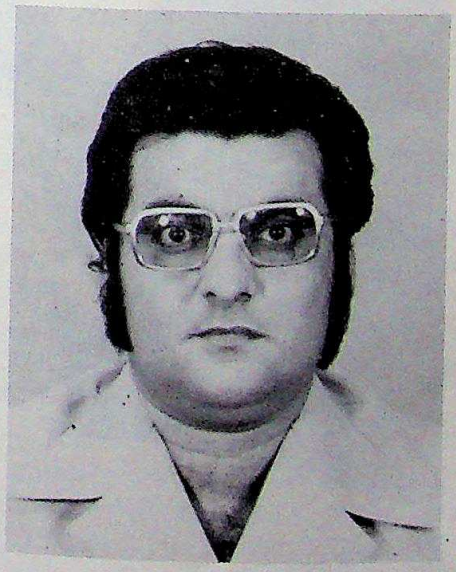
SPAIN

PLEASED TO MEET YOU

Prominent Indian businessman, Mr. Aju Lalchandani of Melilla who is very active in the social scene is pictured here with the President of Spain Mr. Adolfo Suarez.

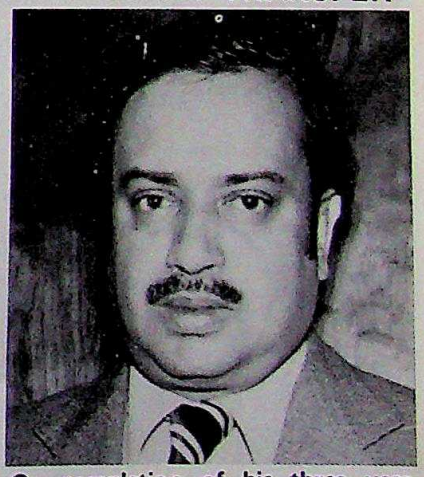
HONG KONG

VISITOR



Mr. Jackie I. Mirchandani from Jakarta was recently in the colony on his way to Japan, Guam and U.S.A. on a sales trip. He enjoyed his stay in Hong Kong and hopes to drop in again on his return to Jakarta.

AI's MANAGER LEAVES ON TRANSFER



On completion of his three year term, Air India's Manager Hong Kong, Mr. Ashok Vaish, left the Colony recently on transfer. Mr. Vaish has returned to the airline's Head Office in Bombay as Deputy Commercial Manager-Marketing with global marketing responsibilities. In the interim period, before a replacement arrives, the Asst. Manager, Mr. S. Ranganathan, will be Acting Manager.

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INDIAN FILM MUSIC ON ICRT TAIPEI RADIO

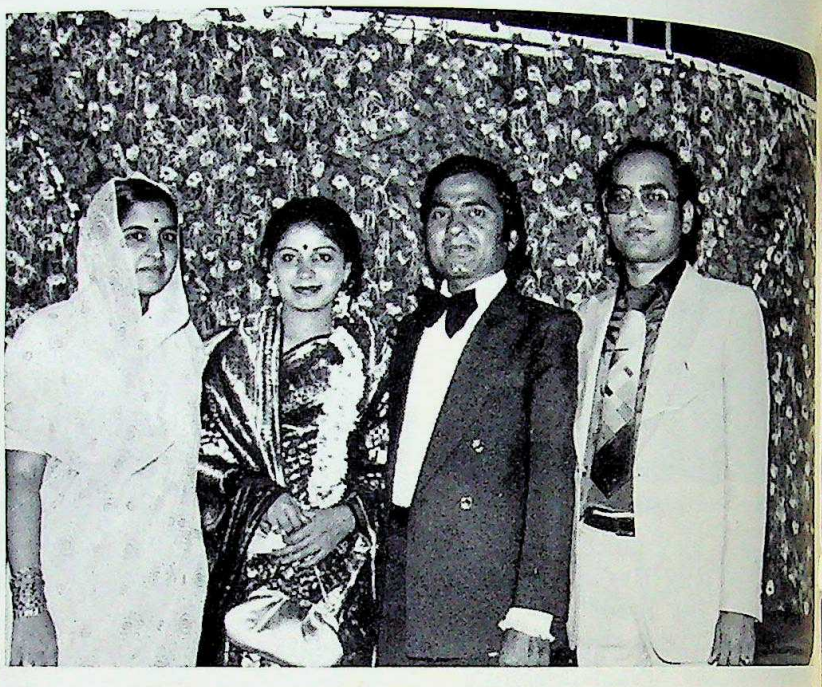
With the compliments of the India Association of Taipei, Indian residents of Taiwan now have privilege of hearing Hindi Film music on ICRT FM Band Taipei Radio every Sunday between 11.30a.m. to 12.00 noon. The first programme was aired on 21st December, 1980 which delighted over 300 Indians of Taiwan and even many local Chinese. All were eagerly looking forward for the next programme due on 28th Dec., 1980 which was also very much rejoiced by all and hope they shall enjoy Hindi film music for many more sundays to come.

India Association of Taipei have also plans of showing Hindi films on Taiwan Television.

DO PREMEE

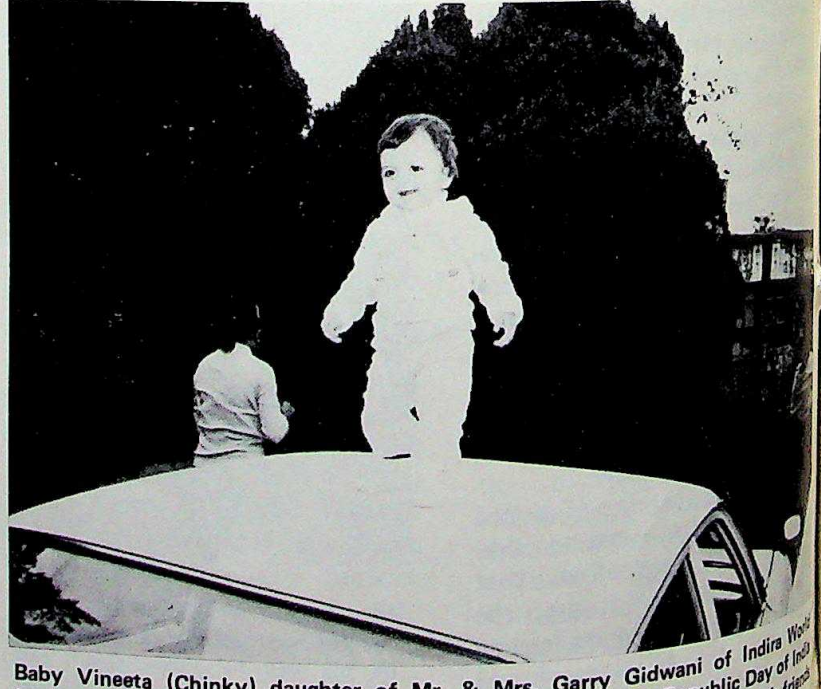
Mr. Vashi Sobhraj Lalchandani of Sobhraj & Sons (HK) Ltd, Taiwan branch was married to lovely Miss Shakuntala, daughter of Mr. Purshotamdas D. Longani. Marriage took place at Bombay on 3rd Nov., 1980. Seen above is the happy couple.

LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT



Mr. Peter B. Dandwani, Director of Gopees Industrial Co. Ltd., Taipei was recently married to Jyoti, daughter of Mr. Motumal Kundnani of M/s. Uttam Saree and Jyoti Saree Emporium, Bombay at Hotel Eagle International. The couple is photographed with Mr. & Mrs. Gordhan B. Dandwani, the groom's brother and his wife.

REPUBLIC DAY CHILD



Baby Vineeta (Chinky) daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Garry Gidwani of Indira World Import Export Ltd, Taiwan born on 26th January, 1980, the Republic Day of India is seen enjoying the cool breeze at Hsinchu Lake while her parents with their friends were boating at the Lake to take full advantage of New Year Holidays.

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TAMIL STARS WARM TO DURBAN'S HOSPITALITY

The troupe of visiting entertainers who arrived from India for a short tour have found Durban to be a "home from home".

The famous film personalities who comprise the leading lights in the Jay Joy Nite show, which was brought to South Africa by the Aruipa Kazahagam, as well as the rest of the performers, have quickly settled into their new environment.

Jayshankar, the star of the show and troupe leader, said at a Press conference a day after their arrival in the country, that all the artistes felt completely at ease in Durban.

"There was hardly any adjustment to make. The food is the same, the language and culture are the same and the people are wonderful.

"We don't feel strange and we don't feel homesick here", he said. "We are very much at home with the people who have all shown us a lot of kindness. It makes us feel one with you".

Jayshanker, said they had been told by many people, including Dr Thirupurisundri Pillay who had lived in South Africa for many years, about the place and the people.

"They all spoke highly of the community but since our arrival our expectations have been exceeded", he said.

Jayshanker who has appeared in more than 170 films, has brought a top notch cast with him.

They include actress-dancers, Rajasulochana, CID Sakuntala, singers Renuka and Srikanth, who is also a music director and composer, and comedian Venniradai Murthy.

Famous artiste Manorama, who was delayed by a motor accident and her film commitments, will join the group later this month.

Each one of them has made their own mark in the entertainment field and local audiences may be assured of performances of high standard.

FULL OF PRAISE

Jayshankar, flanked by his lovely co-stars (from left) 'CID' Sakuntala, Rajasulochana and Renuka.

LEADING STARS

Rajasulochana, who started out as a stage dancer, has appeared in 200 films in a career spanning 25 years. She has acted with virtually all the leading stars in South Indian films and has appeared in hundreds of shows mainly for charity.

'CID' Sakuntala, who takes her name from her first leading role in films, has appeared in 135 movies and plays vampish roles. She is noted for her exhilarating dance sequences.

Renuka is an economics' graduate who developed her early love for singing into a career. She has given more than 1000 performances all over India.

It is quite a change for a law graduate to go before the microphone as a comedian. But that is what Venniradai Murthy has successfully done since making the switch 15 years ago.

Married to film star Manimala, he has made a hit on screen and stage.

K. Popjohn, who visited South Africa some years ago with T.M. Soundararajan, and W.E.S Mani are the musical accompanists.

DIRECT FROM MADRAS

Raja Sulochena

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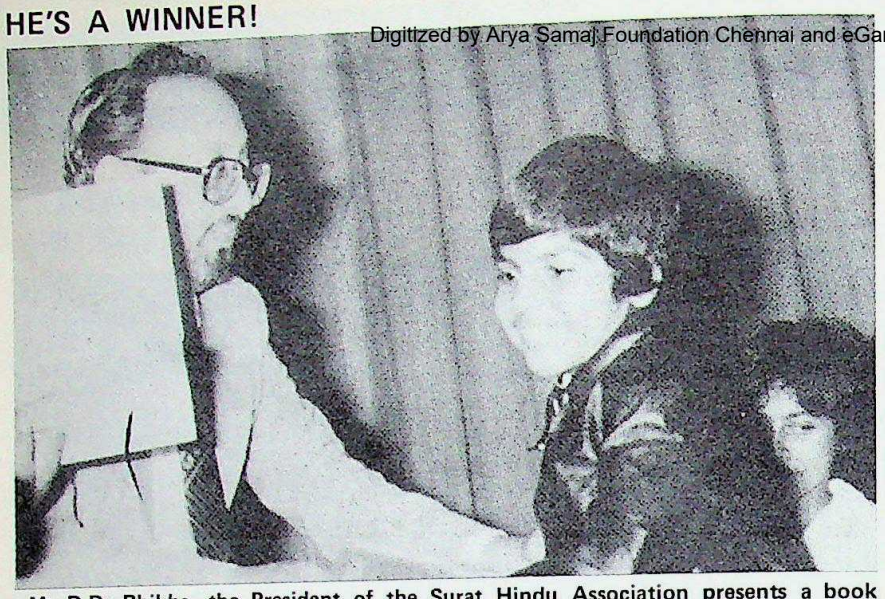
HE'S A WINNER!



Mr D.D. Bhikha, the President of the Surat Hindu Association presents a book prize to Ameer Amod (8) at the Surat School's annual speech and prize-giving day.

GRADUATION

These seventeen children "graduated" at a ceremony organised by the Isipingo Women's Circle which runs the Isipingo Play Centre. Art and handicrafts by the children were on display for their parents.

SMILES GALORE

The Communikon team from left, standing: Lorraine Singh, Hajira Vahed, Ketan Lakhani, Penny Smith, Diane Neville-Rolfe. Seated: Rudolph Nato Da Mata and Gisele Turner.

UGANDA

PLANS TO RETURN "HOME"

The Ugandan Indians are poised to return to their old homes with victory of Dr. Milton Obote. During the current election campaign number of Indian businessmen formerly residing in Uganda helped Dr. Obote, Uganda Peoples Congress with financial and other help.

Among 1,700 UPC delegates who unanimously passed the party manifesto were two wealthy and influential Indians during previous Obote regime, lawyer Gurdial Singh and businessman Shafiq Arain who have raised substantial sums for Dr. Obote's election campaign.

The Madhvani and Mehta industrial empires of Uganda have also had close links with Dr. Obote since these two industrial groups flourished under Obote-rule in the late Sixties. After Uganda People's Congress manifesto welcomed back former Indian and western enterprise, many Uganda Indians settled in Kenya, Britain and India made final plans to return "home".

Dr. Obote promised protection of foreign investment and government assistance to struggling industries and commitment to joint ventures with private enterprise.

Dr. Obote said 40,000 Asians expelled by Dictator Amin were "entitled to take over their enterprises" paying tribute to "pioneering role of the Asians". Dr. Obote added the government would welcome a dialogue with Asians hoping they would repossess and reactivate their abandoned industrial units.

— Kul Bhushan

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PRESENTATION CEREMONY

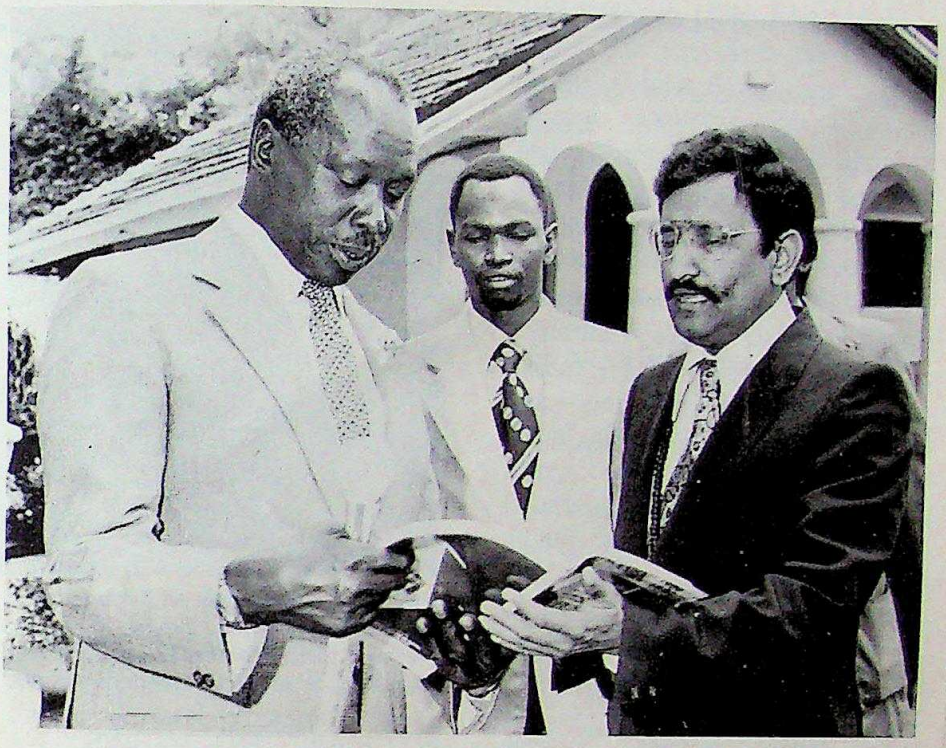
President Daniel Arap Moi of Kenya accepted a copy of Kenya Uhuru (freedom) Yearbook produced by Kenyan Indian journalist and publisher, Kul Bhushan at State House, Nakuru, recently.

Thanking Kul Bhushan who is also our special correspondent for Kenya, President Moi appreciated the hard work and effort in producing the publication emphasising the facts of Kenya's progress.

The President was also introduced to Mr. Benedict Nzomo, the Production Manager and Ashok Kumar the Publishing Manager for the Yearbook. He was informed of the association of Kul Bhushan with Benedict Nzomo for two generations and hailed it as a good example of co-operation and harmony prevalent in Kenya.

President Moi also received more than a hundred reference books of science and other school subjects for the Library of Kabarak High School in his constituency.

The Voice of Kenya Radio and Television headlined presentation ceremony in its news bulletins.



Kenyan journalist Kul Bhushan presented a copy of his publication "Kenya 1980-81/Uhuru 16" to President Daniel arap Moi at State House, Nakuru, recently.

Mr. Bhushan also presented 100 reference books worth Shs. 6,700 on science and other subjects to the President for Kabarak High School library on behalf of the Yearbook's publishing company, Newspread International. Present also at the ceremony were from right the Publishing Manager, Mr. Ashok Kumar, partly hidden, and the Production Manager, Mr. Benedict Nzomo (centre).

PRAYER CONFERENCE

Kenya's Vice-President Mwai Kibaki assured hundreds of Kenya Indians of their full democratic rights and called their full co-operation in national progress at the Republic Day Prayer Conference held in Nairobi recently.

The meeting organised by Deen Dayalu Samaj, founded by Swami Krishnanand Saraswati, paid tribute to the leadership of Kenya's President Daniel Arap Moi and prayed for peace and prosperity of 17 year-old free nation.

In addition to the Kenyan Vice-President, the meeting was also addressed by the Indian High Commissioner to Kenya, Mr. Vinod Grover.

A special message of Greetings was also read from the Prime Minister of Mauritius, Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam.

The Vice-President urged all Kenyans to guard their free society jealously where every child had better opportunity to develop his or her potential and to contribute to the nation.

He paid tribute to social integration of all Kenyans as Kenya recognised all the religions which believe that a man was created in the image of God.

This was the basis for equality in Kenya which did not believe that one religion was superior to another. These freedoms were guaranteed in the Kenya constitution and were the rights of every citizen no matter what tribe, colour, creed, community or part of the world he or she originated from, said the Kenyan leader.

"We will continue to guarantee these and other freedoms and we will not allow situations where children are thought to belong to state and were indoctrinated in dogmas by self appointed committees of ruling parties as in some other countries", said Mr. Kibaki.

— Kul Bhushan

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ETHIOPIA

WARM WELCOME

New Ambassador of India to Ethiopia; Shri Prem Kumar Budhwar arrived to Addis Ababa on the 27th November, 1980; direct from Moscow to resume his new post. On his arrival at the Bole International Airport were present among the all Indian Embassy's officials – President of the Indian Association Shri S.C. Kothari – and leading businessmen of the Indian Community. After their arrival bouquet of flowers were presented by the children of the Indian National School and Indian Community Schools.

Ambassador designate Shri Prem Kumar Budhwar presented his credentials to the Head of the State, H.E. Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile-Mariam, of the Provisional Military Administrative Council and of COPWE and Commander-in-Chief of the Revolutionary Army of Ethiopia; at the National Palace on Saturday, 20th December, 1980; with full Military honour and the same time H.E. Shri Budhwar also delivered to the Chairman a special personal message from the Prime Minister of India Shrimati Indira Gandhi. During the ceremony were presented Ethiopian High ranking officials and from Indian side were present Shri Lal Dingliana-Second Secretary and Shri R.P. Oberai Attache Indian Embassy/Addis Ababa.

Shri Prem Kumar Budhwar was born on 12 September, 1939. He was appointed to the Indian Foreign Service in May, 1962. After undergoing training he successively served as Third Secretary and Second Secretary; Embassy Of India/Moscow from November, 1963 to August 1967; Second/First Secretary, Commission of India Hong Kong-from October, 1967 to October, 1969; Charge d'Affairs, Embassy Of India, Hanoi from October, 1969 to May, 1972; Deputy Secretary, Ministry Of External Affairs from June, 1972 to February, 1975; Consul General Of India, Hamburg from April, 1975 to July, 1976; First Secretary/Counsellor, Embassy of India/Bonn from July 1976 to July, 1978; Minister, Embassy of India/Moscow from July, 19[illegible] upto November, 1980.

– Pravin D[illegible]

AWAITING YOUR ARRIVAL

Ambassador designate to Ethiopia Shri P. K. Budhwar being received by the Charge D'Affairs Shri B. P. Singh, Shri Lal Dingliana – second secretary and Shri R. P. Oberai Attache in the Embassy of India on their arrival from Moscow to take over his new post on 27th November, 1980.

EXCHANGING VIEWS

H. E. Shri P. K. Budhwar Ambassador of India exchanging views and presented a special message from the Prime Minister of India Shrimati Indira Gandhi to H. E. Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam, head of the PMAC and COPWE and Commander-in-chief of the revolutionary army of Ethiopia at the National Palace during the presentation of the credentials on 20th December, 1980. Shri Lal Dingliana second secretary and Shri R. P. Oberai Attache in the Embassy of India are looking on.

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NEWS! NEWS! NEWS!

DUHSERA NITE

Duhsera was celebrated at Sindhu House by the Young Sindhis on the 18th October 80 from 7pm onwards. During the celebration the burning of Ravana took place. On that day, delicious and mouth-watering varieties of Sindhi food were prepared and sold by Sindhi housewives at stalls constructed within the premises. Game stalls were also constructed in which the youngsters were having an exciting time. To top the attractions of the evening a Lucky Draw was also held, in which valuable prizes were given away. A large crowd was gathered on that evening and the function was surely a memorable event.

JANMASHTMI

Janmashtmi festival was held at Sindhu Mandir, Sindhu House, 795 Mountbatten Road, Singapore. This holy occasion was celebrated with much devotion by an excellent performance by the Young Sindhis and also the Sindhi School children with dances, short drama (Krishin and Sudama), bhajans and speeches and under the organisation of Sindhi Merchants Association. A large number of community attended this holy occasion. Mr. T. Ramchand, President of Sindhi Association spoke few words on Krishna and thanked the audience who graced the occasion and the children who took part in the performance of this festival. Preeti Bhojan was served to all. Packets containing sweets, Sattas and Kurpuras were distributed to all the community after the show by courtesy of devotees.

H. H. SWAMI LILASHAH MAHARAJ

The 5th Anniversary of our reverend Sindhi Saint Yogiraj Swami Lilashah Maharaj was celebrated with much devotion at Sindhu Mandir, Sindhu House, Singapore. On this day an AssaDiVar kirtan was held in conjunction with the anniversary by Mr. & Mrs. C. V. Parsram. A large community had attended. Preeti bhojan was also served.

SRI GURU NANAK DEVJI

Birthday of Sri Guru Nanak Devji was celebrated with great love and devotion at Sindhi Mandir, Sindhu House, Singapore on the 22nd November, 80.

SADHU VASWANI'S BIRTHDAY

Birthday of Dada Vaswani was celebrated with great devotion and dedication at Sindhu Mandir, Sindhu House on the 26th November 80.

DEEPAVALI BALL 80

A group of Sindhi Merchants of Singapore had a very entertaining and enjoyable programme at the Crystal Ballroom of the Singapore Hyatt Hotel on the 5th November 80. The highlights of the evening were a Philipino dance, an Italian dance and also a local Cabaret dance performance. There were also local Indian dances and songs. The hall was filled with laughter and merry-making. In the latter part of the programme, beautiful music was being played and also spot dances carrying fantastic prizes for the winners. To top the attractions of the wonderful evening, a grand Lucky Draw was held in which the first prize was awarded to Mr. Doulat Sadarangani and the second prize was awarded to Mr. Nanikram Chatani of M/s. Hassamal International. Both of them were awarded each a VHS Akai Video Cassette Player. About 600 people had attended this function. This auspicious function was indeed a very successful one.

YOUNG SINDHIS OF SINGAPORE

During the year under review the Committee appointed 2 Sub-Committees comprising 10 young men and 10 young women between the ages of 18 and 35 with the objective of ascertaining whether they could contribute and participate in the activities of the Association to benefit the community as a whole. The objectives are to organise athletic meetings, functions, picnics, debates, film shows etc. The first and second outdoor function in the form of a picnic was a roaring success with over 150 members participating. The general aim behind this idea is to inculcate a sense of civic-conciousness in our Young Sindhis who constitute the background of our community. It is hoped our Young Sindhis would be able to stand up and identify themselves as proud members of the Sindhi community in Singapore. More functions and activities will follow in the distant future.

WEEKLY MORAL AND RELIGIOUS SESSIONS

These weekly moral and religious sessions were first introduced and started off by her holiness Uma Bharti at an AssaDiVar kirtan held on 10th

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February by the Young Sindhis at the Sindhu Mandir. On this day she had appealed all parents to encourage their sons & daughters to learn more about Hinduism, as these sessions would benefit them immensely. By attending these sessions, they may in time to come, prove themselves of religious conciousness. She then gave her blessings to all. Her Holiness Swami Atmananda Saraswati has been most kind and generous in wanting to disseminate her store of knowledge to the Sindhi community on religion. She has been with us since the first session began in February. The sessions are held every Tuesday from 7.15-8.30pm., where katha on Ramayan is held on chapter basis which gives knowledge of maintaining good family life. Each chapter is read individually and detailed explanation is given by Mataji. It is gratifying to note that attendances at these sessions have risen substancially with the hard work put in by the Young Sindhis. The youths who are present regularly have found the talks most interesting, illuminating and enriching and it is their hope that the numbers attending will swell to sizeable proportions.

ANNIVERSARY OF MORAL AND RELIGIOUS SESSIONS

The Young Sindhis Committee had celebrated their 1st Anniversary of their weekly moral and religious sessions at an AssaDiVar kirtan in Sindhu Mandir, Sindhu House from 8am – 10.30am. on the 7th December 80. Preeti bhojan was also served.

SINDHI CLASSES

Sindhi classes are being held at our Sindhu House daily where our Sindhi children learn our mother tongue Sindhi and are able to speak in Sindhi to elderly ones and get knowledge of Hindu religion and Sindhi Culture. The teacher of this class is Mrs. Bhagwanti Mangharam. At the end of every year, she always organises a party in appreciation and love for her students.

YOGA CLASSES

Yoga classes are held daily for young and old in order to help them to keep physically and mentally alert. A learned Swami Atmananda Sarswati who is very well-versed in yoga has been conducting classes at her yoga ashram at 112-A Lorong G. Telok Kurau, Singapore. She shows the ways of getting free from diseases ie: diabetes, gastric and hypertension and also mild heart diseases.

— Asha Parrara

UNITED KINGDOM

MRINAL SEN FILMS FESTIVAL IN UK

The British Film Institute's National Film Theatre will present the first comprehensive retrospective of India's distinguished film director Mrinal Sen and his 13 feature films.

Mr. Sen has been invited to London by the British Film Institute for this occasion. He will be interviewed on stage at the National Film Theatre by "Guardian" film critic Derek Melcolm.

The Indian High Commission here has arranged a reception in honour of Mr. Sen the same evening. Prominent British film and theatre personalities have been invited to the "Bharat Bhavan" for the function.

BBC PROGRAMME TO HELP IMMIGRANTS

A television programme specially designed to help minority groups of immigrants in Britain, where English is their second language, is to be launched by the BBC shortly, according to the British Information Services.

The series of 20 programmes to be presented by a multi-ethnic team is called "speak for yourself", and languages covered include Hindi, Urdu, Punjabi, Bengali and Gujarati as well as other foreign languages.

It is estimated that there are more than 200000 adults in the UK who can speak English only slightly, or not at all. Navy have until now never found the opportunity to master the skills of understanding and speaking English.

Each programme will offer useful information linked to the main situation of the day. There will be an opportunity to talk about and see something of the culture and customs of the different communities, including the indigenous British. The production team have shown a test programme to sample audiences of immigrants to discover what the programmes can do best and what the audience most want and needs.

MORARJI'S RECIPE FOR CANCER PATIENT

The former prime minister, Mr. Morarji Desai, inaugurated a seminar on nature cure organised by the Lions Club of Kalwe and Aryodaya Trust at the Nature Cure Centre Ashram at Parsik Hill, Kalwe.

If a cancer patient was given grapes for six to eight weeks without water, his pain would be reduced substantially. Though a cure was not possible, he would die peacefully, according to Mr. Desai. The best nature cure for ill-health was to eat limited food at a slower pace.

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New Delhi News letter

Somnath Dhar

Ring Out The Old, Ring In The New

Most of the discomforts — emanating from the economic malaise, violence and political strife in different parts of India — suffered by the people in one form or the other were forgotten for the moment in the revelry that ushered the New Year in Delhi and metropolitan cities and other towns. Festive crowds gathered in restaurants and central places (Connaught Place, New Delhi, Marine Drive, Bombay, Chowringhee, Calcutta, etc.) as the clock ticked towards the zero hour. Even strangers wished each other good luck.

Merwyn's Band entertained the elite at the elegant Claridge's Hotel on Aurangzeb Road in the capital. The nearby Taj Mahal Hotel was the scene of superb festivity, heightened by the Mughlai and other cuisine. Welcomgroup Maurya Sheraton, in faraway Diplomatic Enclave, had brought in glamorous Gai Dunlop, Australia's top disco and TV singing star, to sing at Bali-Hi restaurant, alternating with Senorita Teresa Moreno and her fantastic flamenco dancers. For the New Year's Eve finest, last hours Entrepere Pradip Rao turned magician — and well he might, for he is a member of the world famous Magic Circle in London. All the way from Hong Kong, the Welcomgroup had flown in two great Chinese chefs, Book Foo Cheong and Li Kei Cheong, to cook real Far East fantasies.

GAY GAI AT MAURYA

Australian disco and TV star, Gai Dunlop was at the mike, singing away the finest last hours of 1980 at Bali-Hi restaurant of Maurya Sheraton.

Courtesy: Hindustan Times

Similar festivities took places at ITDC's Ashok group hotels, the Oberoi hotels and 3 to 4-star hotels. Qawwalis, pop music, Ghazals and magic shows had been arranged, to go with dinners and snacks. A large number of persons, however, spent the New Year's Eve watching the Television, which telecast special programmes, to ring in the new year, and ring out the old, in Tennyson's phrase.

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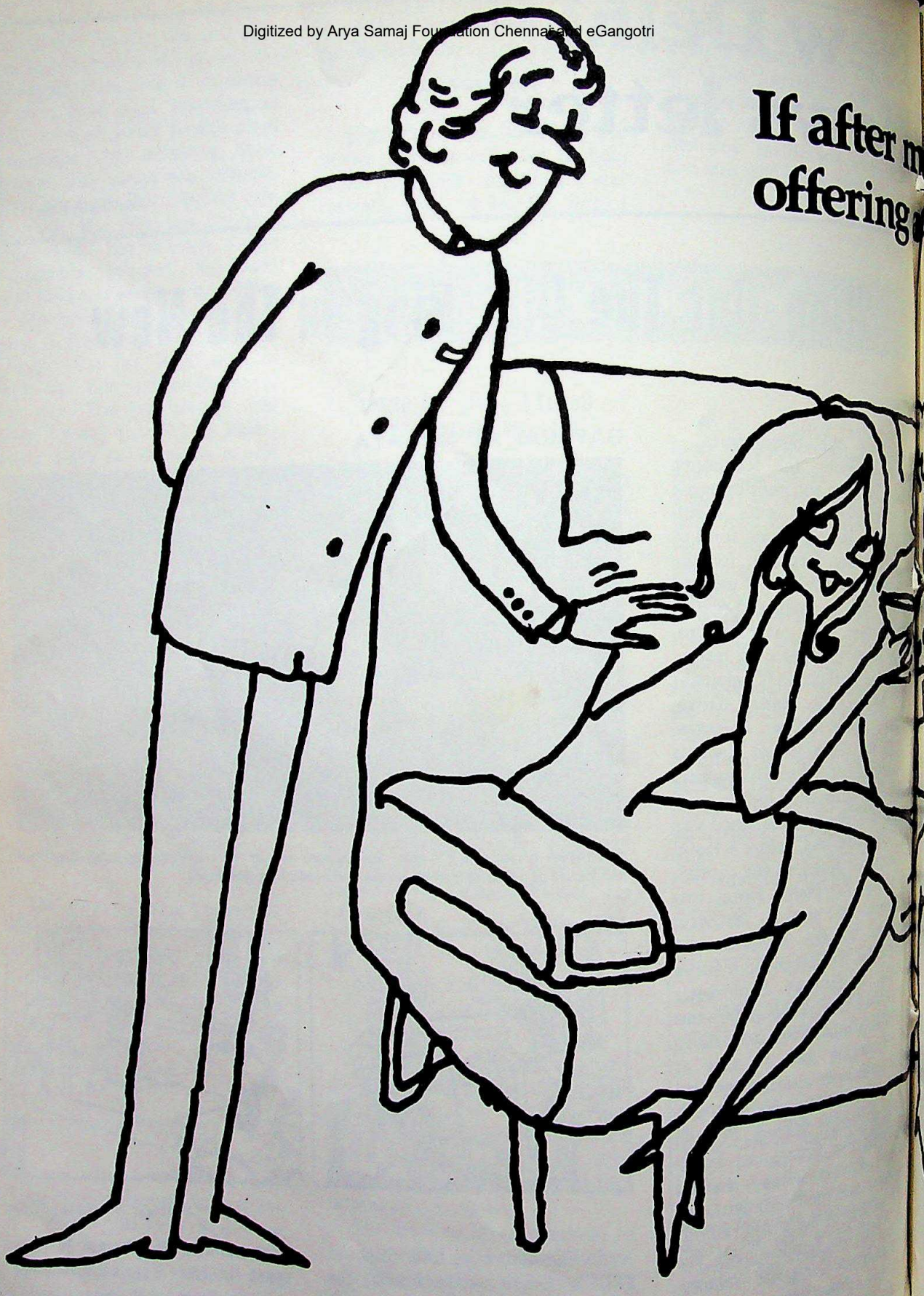

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BOOKING OFFICES: Hong Kong: Hong Kong Hilton Hotel Kangri Collection, Haridwar. Kowloon: Peninsula Hotel Lob
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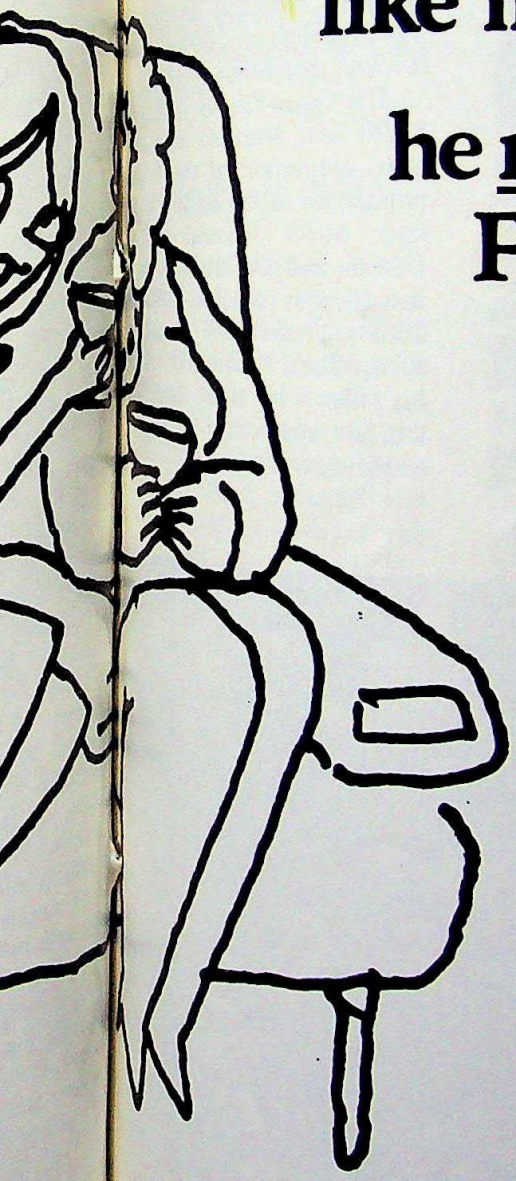
...fter m...g each passenger feel like a V.I.P., ...ering ...e on the best shows in town, and mixing Bloody Marys with panache, he can still burp a baby like mother did...



he must be an Air-India Flight Supervisor.

He can make the miles fly, hold a nervous hand through an airpocket.

Your Man Friday, our super-trained Supervisor.

A master in human psychology and passenger relations, he can spot a first-time flier, a jet veteran, or an eager bride flying to her husband in the U.S.A.

He can handle complaints, tall orders and emergencies with such ease, you'd think he was born on a plane.

He is an ace of information— cruising speeds, flying times, standard weights, where to buy the best bargains for the least prices.

How else can he be the hero of a hundred pleasant flights, the man who makes every flying hour a lovely experience.

And all because there is someone very special on board.

You, dear passenger.

...ninsula Hotel L... ...376 AIRPORT: Tel. 3-829558/9

AIR-INDIA

YOUR COUNTRY'S AIRLINE

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Gleanings from Indian press

POPULATION OF INDIA BY RELIGION

Hindus continue to be the predominant community in almost all the states and Union territories despite reported apprehensions that the percentage of the Hindu population is fast declining.

The Census atlas, brought out by the Census Commissioner's office, revealed that the Hindus accounting for 453,44 million represent 82,71 per cent of the total population of India.

A detailed study showed that out of 357 districts in the country, 235 show proportion of Hindu population above the national level whereas in 122 districts it was below the national level.

In 256 districts, the proportion of Hindus exceeds 80 per cent of the population and in 83 districts it is between 20 and 80 per cent. In the remaining 18 districts it is 20 per cent and below.

Orissa with its Hindu population of 96.25 per cent has the hightest concentration, followed by Himachal Pradesh 96.08 and the Union territory of Dadra and Nagar Haveli 95.83.

The lowest proportion of the Hindus is found in the Laccadive, Minicoy and Admindivi islands 4.86, followed by Mizoram 6.39 and Nagaland 11.43.

Muslims, the second largest community, account for 61.42 million in 1971. They represent 11.20 per cent of the total populations.

The Union territory of Laccadive, Minicoy and Admindivi islands (94.37) and Jammu and Kashmir (65.85) were the predominantly Muslim populated areas.

MUSLIM POPULATION

The states where the proportion of Muslims exceeds national average of 11.21 are Assam 24.56 West Bengal 20.46, Kerala 19.50, Uttar Pradesh 15.48 and Bihar 13.48. Sikkim has the lowest proportion of the community.

Christians come third in the order of numerical strength with 14.23 million or 2.60 per cent of the total population of the country.

The Union territory of Mizoram 86.90 and Nagaland 66.76 show high proportion of the Christian population in the country. Meghalaya 46.98 followed by Goa, Daman and Diu 31.77, Andaman and Nicobar islands 26.35, Manipur 26.03, Kerala 21.05, Pondicherry 8.76, Tamil Nadu 5.75, Andhra Pradesh 4.19 and Assam 2.6 indicate appreciable proportion of Christians.

EXCELLENCE AWARDS

The President, Mr. Neelam Sanjiva Reddy, gave away awards to the winners in the 21st National Awards Competition for Excellence in Printing and Designing of Books and other Publications. While the President is looking at the well-displayed entries looking on is Mr. Vasant Sathe, India's Minister for Information & Broadcasting.

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The fourth major religion in the country is Sikhism, constituting 10.38 million and forms 1.89 per cent of the total population. The high concentration of Sikhs is Punjab 60.22 and Chandigarh 25.45. Buddhists, numbering 3.87 million in 1971, rank fifth in the country constituting 0.71 per cent of the total pupulation. Maharashtra has over 86 per cent of the total population. Maharashtra has over 36 per cent of the total Buddhist population of the country, though they constitute only 6.47 per cent of the states' population.

Jains spread over mostly in the Western part of the country, occupy the sixth position numerically in the country.

BREZHNEV IN INDIA

The warm and affectionate welcome accorded to Mr. L. I. Brezhnev, the Chairman, Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, during his recent visit to India, reaffirmed the ties that bind India and the Soviet Union. Agreements were signed on economic, technical and cultural cooperation, besides the trade agreement for 1981-85. Mr. Brezhnev's talks with Prime Minister Gandhi went on for four sessions. He has invited Mrs. Gandhi to visit the Soviet Union.

The VVIP visit has demonstrated once again that the Treaty of Friendship and Coperation signed between the two countries in 1971 has blossomed forth in manifold ways of mutual interest in diverse fields. No wonder that Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev received a standing ovation from Members of Parliament when he arrived in the Central Hall of the Parliament to address them. The send-off given to the Soviet leader was as warm as the arrival. Besides the President and the Prime Minister and her Cabinet colleagues, there was a large crowd of M.P.s and diplomats, and Mr. Brezhnev shook hands with them all.

— S.D.

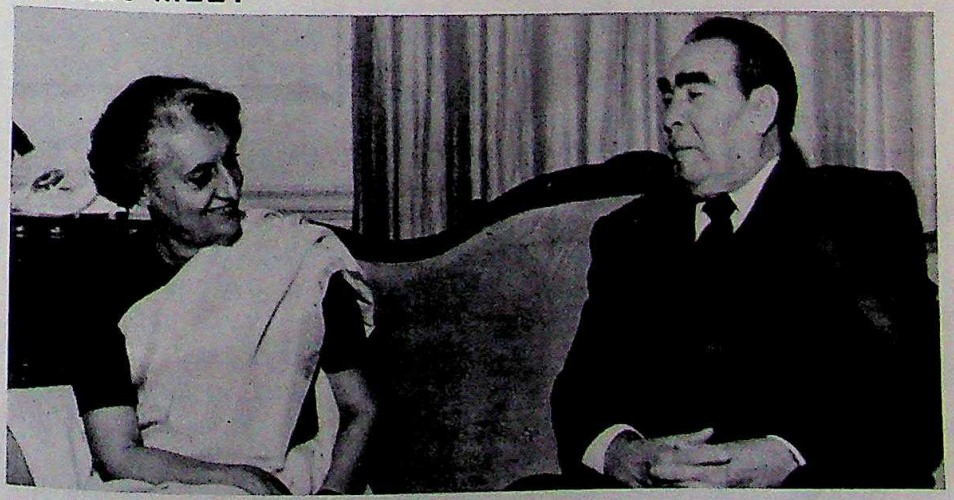
WARM WELCOME

Soviet VVIP, Mr. L. I. Brezhnev, the Chairman, Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, was accorded a warm and affectionate welcome at Delhi airport by the President, the Prime Minister, her Cabinet Colleagues and the diplomatic corps. Mrs. Gandhi is shaking hands with Mr. Brezhnev.

BOUQUETS ALL AROUND

President Sanjiva Reddy, Prime Minister Gandhi and Foreign Minister Narasimha Rao with bouquets for the V.V.I.P.

TWAIN MEET



Mrs. Gandhi and Mr. L. I. Brezhnev in conversation in her office.

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SHOWCASE OF INDIAN ART IN BOMBAY

THEATRE MINUS MICROPHONES

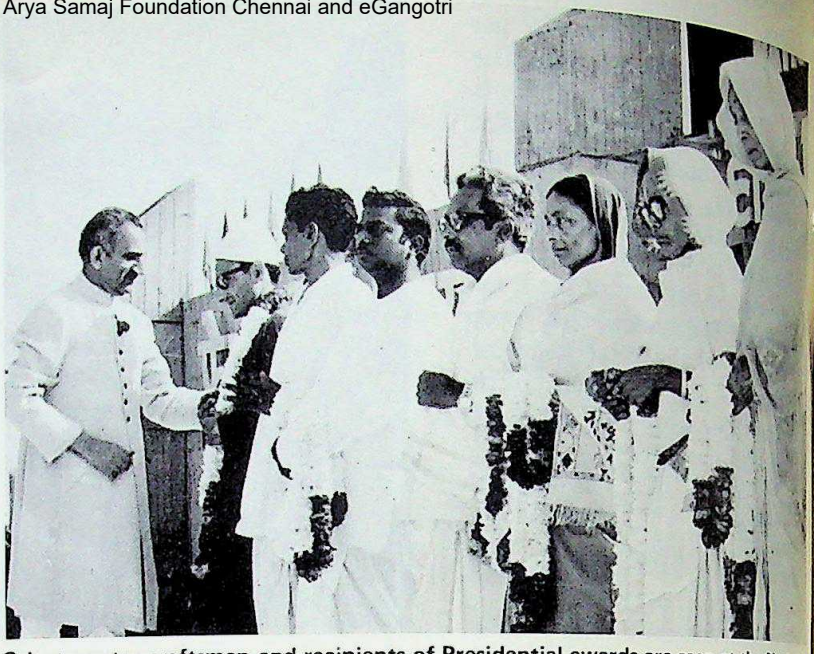
The most unique feature of the new theatre – the fabulous Tata-sponsored Rs. 5 crore National Centre for the Performing Arts at Nariman Point in Bombay – is its acoustics. Inaugurated by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi recently, the enormous building, with its exclusive panorama of the sea, came alive in a 9-day festival of music, dance and drama, featuring the greatest Indian talents alive: Bismillah Khan (Shehnai); Yamini Krishnamurti (Karnatic Sangeet) and Briju Maharaj (Kathak).

In addition, there were performances by the Azerbaijan Puppet Theatre from the USSR, Southern music from the US and the Gulbenkian Orchestra from Portugal.

The acoustic consultant to the new theatre was Prof. Cyril Harris, Professor of Architecture and Engineering of Columbia University. He worked closely with Philip Johnson, who was responsible for the main theatre of the Lincoln Centre for the Performing Arts in New York (since completed), as well as the Kennedy Centre for the Performing Arts in Washington which is coming up.

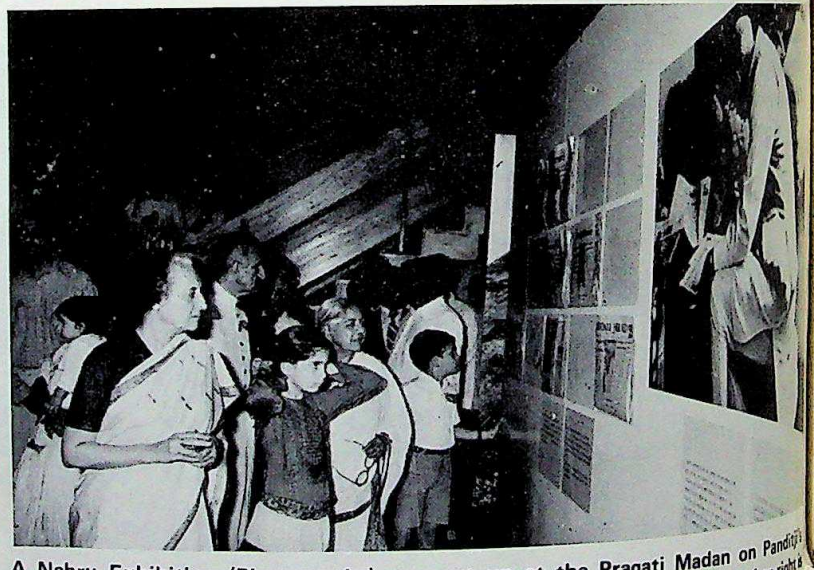
Giving the details of the implementation of the revolutionary idea, Dr. V.K. Narayana Menon, who has been Executive Director of this project, since its inception in 1968, said in an interview that the theatre is fan-shaped, and reduces the number of rows from 32 in a normal theatre of this size, to 17 in this theatre. He added, "The stage is almost projected into the audience. The distribution of natural sound is so perfect that a soloist performing can almost be heard better in the last row than in the first. Similarly, a dancer's abhinaya, because of the distribution of seats, can be viewed as clearly at the back of the hall."

CRAFTSMEN HONOURED



Select master craftsmen and recipients of Presidential awards are seen at the National Handicrafts Fair, Pragati Maidan, with Mr. Mohammad Yunus, the President of the Trade Fair Authority of India that organised the successful fair.

NEHRU IN PIX



A Nehru Exhibition (Photographs) was put up at the Pragati Madan on Panditji's birthday. Prime Minister Indira Gandhi is looking at the photographs; on her right is Mr. Mohammad Yunus, the President of the Trade Fair Authority of India, that organised the exhibition.

As for the funds, Dr. Menon (69, musicologist and former Director General of All India Radio) revealed that the several Tata trusts set the ball rolling and several other major industrialists (Godrej, Saraya and Chowgule) also contributed. So did UNESCO, the John D. Rockefeller Third Fund and the Ford Foundation.

Asked about the present-day standard of Indian performing arts, Dr. Menon observed: "Our cultural tradition is intact and developing better than ever before. The audiences are better, for one; and musicians or dancers of brilliance today have a background in the humanities that their forefathers did not have. They have the advantage of education, of travel, of being open to influences of the world."

– Somnath Dhar

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INDIA WILL SET UP 60 SMALL UNITS IN NIGERIA

India will set up about 60 small industrial units in Nigeria on a turnkey basis, according to official sources.

The General Manager of the National Small Industries Corporation left New Delhi for Nigeria to finalise with the Government of that country, the size of the units and items to be manufactured.

The NSIC will soon open an office in Nigeria for setting up small units there. At present Tanzania is the only other country where the corporation has its office. It is likely to open one office in Indonesia also where it has undertaken to set up about 200 small units.

The sources said Nigeria, which has shown keen interest in installing small industrial units based on Indian know-how, has sent as many as four official delegations to India in this connection during the past six months.

AUROVILLE TAKEOVER EYED

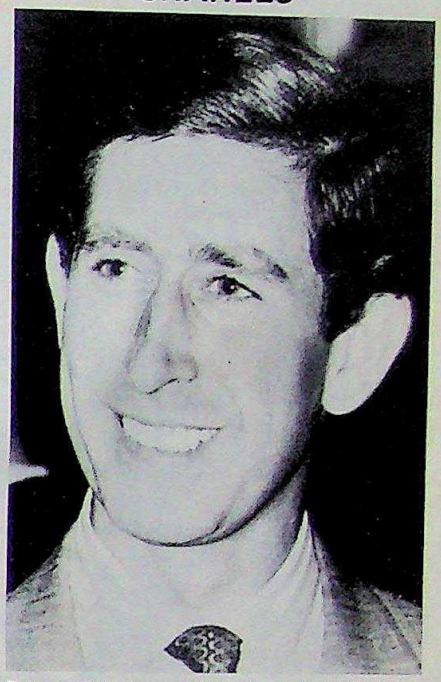
A dispute over whether the Center should take over the Auroville international center will probably be dumped in the lap of the new session of Parliament.

A decision by the government to take over management of the international spiritual center in Tamil Nadu, about eight kilometers from the Pondicherry border, was held up by an injunction granted by Justice M.N. Roy of the Calcutta High Court. The injunction was in force until November 18.

The central Cabinet early this month decided to take over the Aurobindo Society.

The Sri Aurobindo Society runs Auroville and 350 other centers in India and abroad with a claimed membership of more than 20,000. The society claims the government does not have the authority to take over the center.

CROWN PRINCE CHARLES



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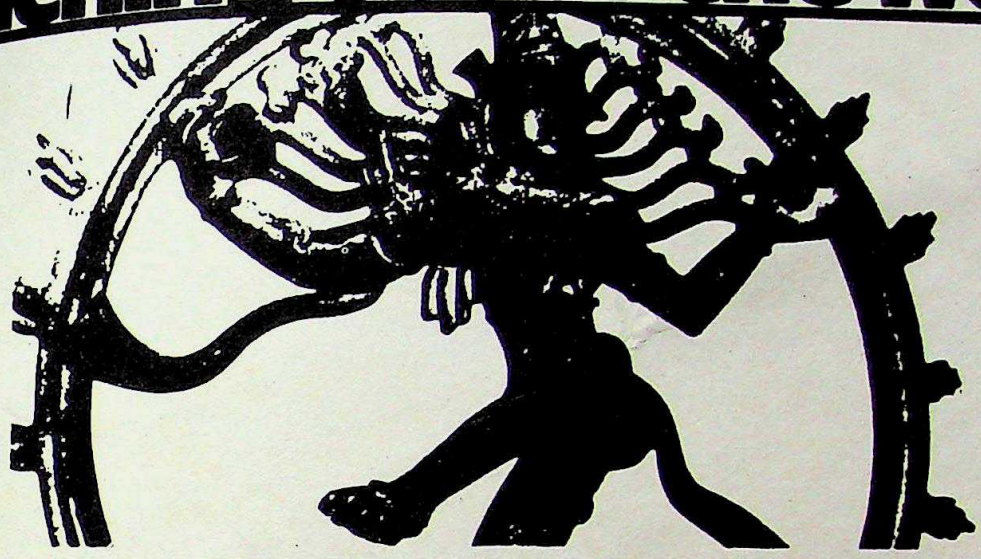

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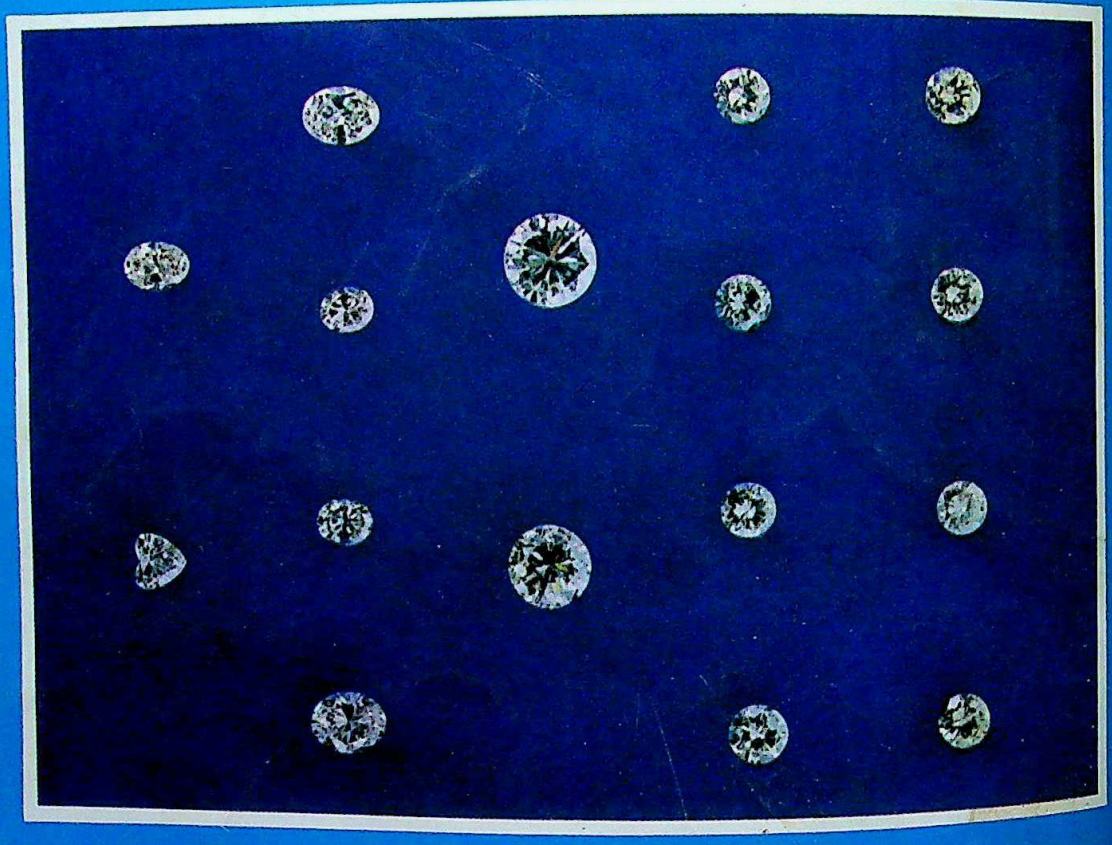

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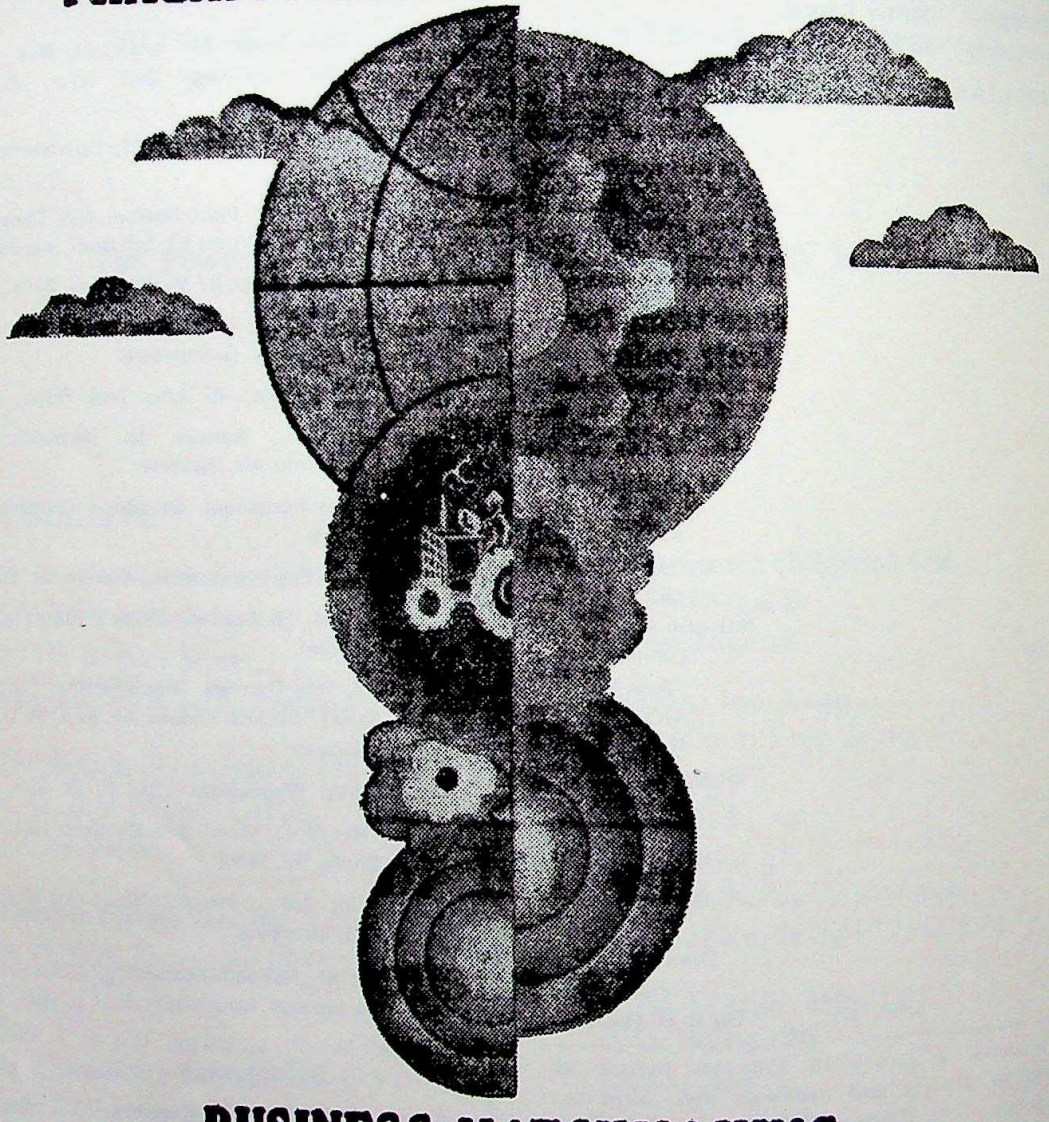
PRAGATI MAIDAN NOV. 14 - DEC. 4, 1981



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Cover:
The Samavasarana

Samaiki

G. Sitaf

Trade Fair

The Trade Fair Authority of India organises trade fairs of Indian products in different export markets around the world. Two months ago it organised an exhibition of Indian engineering goods in Singapore. Recently, it arranged an exhibition of Indian fabrics and garments in Hong Kong. Such fairs and promotional activities of Indian products for exports are necessary and a welcome move. TFA has also developed a good fair organisation and display technology. Its efforts are both impressive as well as of international standards. We hope these efforts will be stepped up and wish the TFA well.

While on the subject, I may suggest that the TFA make more efforts to involve the overseas Indian merchants with its work. Some consultative committees may be set up in different areas comprising of Indian merchants. This should make the involvement meaningful. Also the TFA could have more of professional agency men and women as well as fair arrangers from India and abroad working for its own assignment basis. This should help professionalization of display work. Full timers are good but outside experts do inject new inputs at less cost. It will also be useful to monitor the results of such fairs and exhibitions to the overseas Indian groups so as to enable them to make suggestions for improvement.

May I congratulate Mr. Mohammad Yunus Khan, Chairman of the TFA for the good work he is doing and assure him of our co-operation in any possible manner.

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Rear View

K. N. Vaid

BIG BUSINESS FAMILIES

How big are the big business families in India. The following table gives an idea of the biggness of top 10 business houses of India.

Family	Assets in M Rs.	Turnover in M Rs.
Birla	11710	13750
Tata	11020	13680
Mafatlal	3180	4750
Singhania	3000	3190
Thapar	2440	3670
Bangur	2290	3090
Shriram	2050	3360
Scindia	2030	930
Bhivandiwala	1780	610
Kirloskar	1760	1990

(In 1978)

In the previous two years, a few more family businesses have come on the chart. Top twenty business houses who control 35 percent of the total assets of privately owned business in India have grown by 21 percent per year and were worth Rs. 51190 millions in 1978.

Most of these business houses were set up 60/70 years ago. Besides tremendous product diversification and multi-company nature, each business is closely held, sons succeed fathers. Fathers were pioneers, learnt trade through experience, took risks by intuition and came up the hard way. Sons are pioneering in new lines, are western educated, take calculated risks and arrive at decisions by using hard core information processed through computers. Take Birlas. The founding father G.D. Birla is 86 and active. However, the major thrust forward to the family business has come from grandsons Birla. They are in Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, various African countries, U.K., U.S.A. and Canada. Birla expertize, finance and technology is working everywhere. They are involved into almost everything, from pins to aeroplanes. Nine of the grandsons handle a bulk of the Birla corporations – many of them were set up by those who run them. Singhanias of Kanpur diversified from textiles to synthetic fibre, paper, tyres, tubes, cement, engineering, chemicals and business machines. Again, it is the third generation youngmen who pioneered expanison. Same is for Shrirams – the DCM people – who started from coarse cloth and moved to making computers. Bajaj autos have plants in Indonesia and Taiwan and their scooters are hot sellers in America.

Despite the socialist image of the country, the big business has grown faster. The new generation business leaders say that this is due to their better preparedness to meet the challenge of tomorrow; western education, need based shop floor level training, professional management and ability to take calculated risks are some of the qualifications that, they say, have helped them to be where they are. They accept that financial backing was a help but the way we made money grow is because of our own efforts.

Someone has said that money takes a full circle over four generations. The first generation plants a seedling, second nurtures it, third expands it and fourth destroys it. The saying may be based on the lack of preparedness of the 4th generation – take life easy. Nevertheless, it is a good warning.

GETTING TOUGH

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi has always been a tough and clear headed chief executive of the nation. During past nine months following the death of her son, she appeared to be inactive and not her usual self. She was accused of heading a Government that did not function. The style of functioning is changing and Mrs. Gandhi is busy in putting things straight.

She wants her cabinet members and Chief Ministers of the States to produce results fast and she is backing them all the way through. The message seems to be, "You will get all political support. Produce results or quit". And this approach is being implemented by her ruthlessly. The Railway Minister – a senior party leader was asked to resign as his ministry was not functioning well. The replacement was brought in and given the task of moving freight and passengers efficiently and invested

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him with necessary authority to act. He sacked the Railway Board – the top brass technocrats – and brought in a new team. This has never happened before in India. Employees were asked to behave and as a deterrent, 1000 loco shed strikers were sacked. Another senior party leader who was civil supplies minister was dropped at two hours notice. When sugar prices were soaring high and common man was crying, the minister took one month off for a private visit to America. He lost his job on return. In CBI, which is the top investigative department, 15 senior officers have been replaced. Many governors have been shifted.

At the party level, partymen have been asked to stop bickering, politiking and complaining against chief ministers. The entire party executive council in Orissa was sacked and replaced by acceptable men. In Maharashtra, the party boss was forced to quit for not backing the Chief Minister. One of her own men in Karnataka was sacked as he publically opposed the policies of the Chief Minister. In the northern state of Uttar Pradesh, when a group of legislators met her to complain against their Chief Minister, they were told to either submit to the Chief Minister or face new elections. Obviously, they submitted. When Chief Minister of the Punjab complained of political interference, Home Minister Zail Singh was told to lay off the State and not make visits there. She wants party men to close ranks, resolve dissent behind closed doors and publically come out solidly behind the established authority – the Chief Minister.

The tough approach has also been extended to industry, labour and other activist groups. Heads of 180 old government owned companies have been told in clear words to work on commercial lines and get out of the "red" or else! 1,250,000 employees of government companies remained on strike for 77 days. She did not yield an inch. "Go back to work, get going and then talk", they were told and they did unconditionally. Life Insurance workers have been out on strike all over India. They are the highest paid employees in the country.

She refused to compromise and told them, "A day's fair wage is the result of a day's honest labour". Put in work, produce results and then ask for a share. You can't force us to give you more because you have a strong union. A power generating company was allowed to fire 100 troublesome workers. Output improved from 34 to 56 per cent of the capacity. Air India boss was allowed hiring and firing. The loss has come down from Rs. 80 million to 2 million in four months. Similar treatment has been metted to several activist groups, medicos in Gujarat, agitationists in Assam etc. Get back to work, produce, show results and then make a claim seems to her style of handling affairs of the nation.

Wrote an influencial fortnightly magazine, "She is now picking her man and fashioning her policies with the same cold calculation with which a housewife goes about shopping, checking each egg against lamp." There is neither right nor left, the only valid ideology is the one that works. And she has started making things work.

SPACE EXPLORING

It is a matter of pride for any person to be living at a time when human talent and genius has been applied for the good of mankind on a scale greater than ever before.

Yuri Gagarin's first epic space mission was the beginning of space exploration. On April 12, 1961, his mission ship rose to 300 kilometres above the globe and by circling the world in 90 minutes, he proved that man could live and work in outer space. Twenty years later to the day, on April 12, 1981, Commanders Young and Crippen took their space shuttle, Columbia, to the outer orbit, circled the globe for 54 hours and brought back their spacecraft to a perfect landing. The age-old dream of mankind has been made a reality, foraging man's way into space.

The space research and all work connected with studies of other planets and interplanetary space is beginning more and more to influence sciences and man's collective efforts to find new horizons. The continued growth of long-distance telephone and telegraph communication, television, weather forecasting, studies of natural resources, sea and air navigation, geographical investigations and solution of many economic problems depend on space research. The scale of space photographs is practically unlimited, and one picture can cover an area of 30,000 to 50,000 or more square kilometres. These photographs combined with geological research help in obtaining information on the existence and size of subterranean water under extensive sand and desert areas and of making engineering and geological estimates of territories for economic resource utilization. Studies of shelf and loose soils from outer space afford material for understanding the processes of wind erosion, climate, vegetation, sea coasts and their formation etc. Based on this knowledge, one day mankind will begin travelling to planets as we do today from Tokyo to London. Human migration to and settlement on planets is pipe dream no longer.

India has its own space research programme, small though it may be. In 1978, it launched its first artificial earth satellite, *ARYABHATTA* followed by another one *BHASKRA* last year. The third satellite *SEO 2* will go up this year. A spacecraft named *APPLE IRS* is under manufacture at the Space Research Centre, Bangalore.

It is great to live in an era of space research, when the cosmos is becoming a reality.

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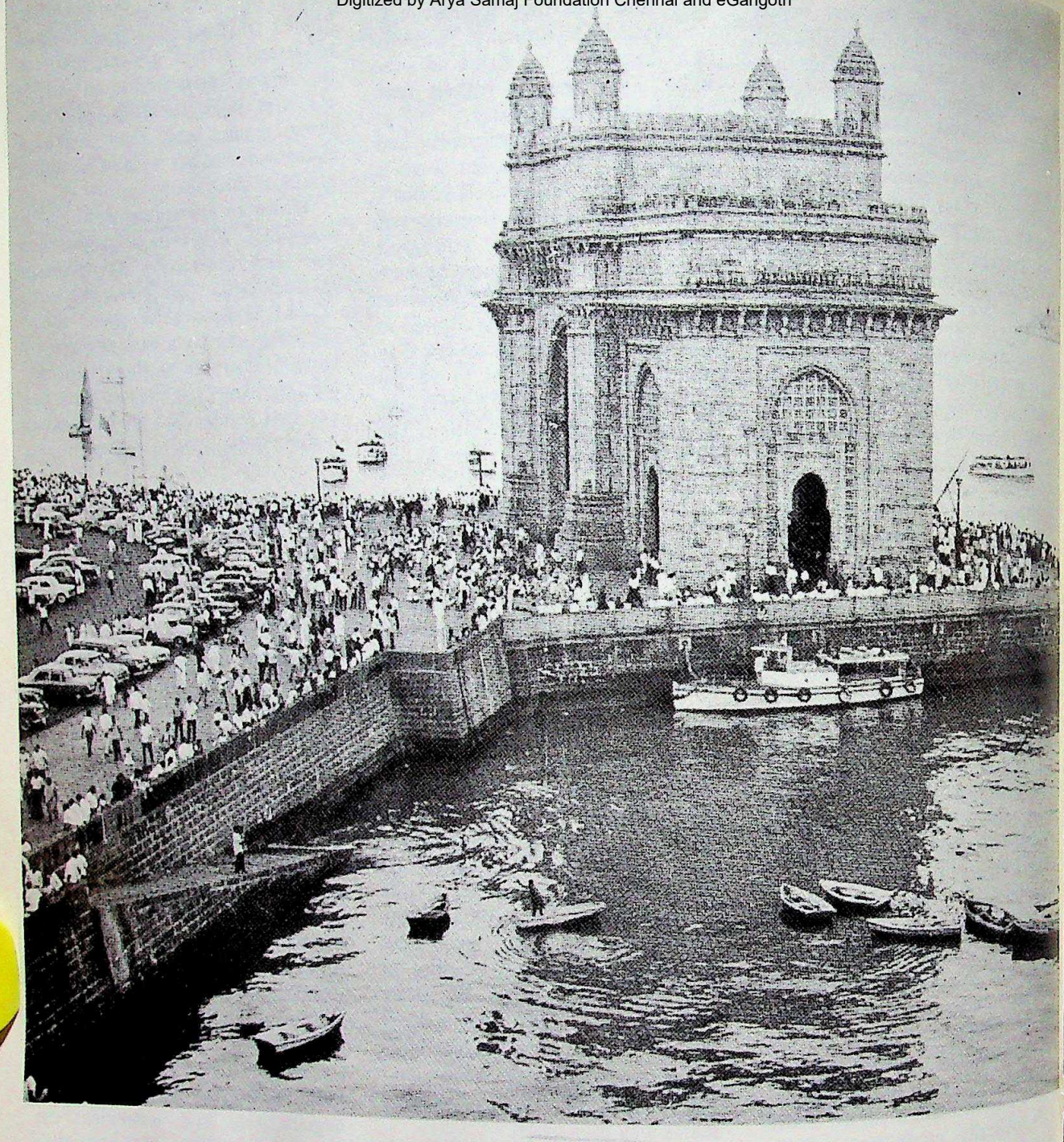

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Mother Teresa A Guide To Love

By Bhagwanti Mohan

To meet Mother Teresa is a treat for the soul. I was very lucky to have had the opportunity to meet her while she was here in Hong Kong on a brief stop-over on her way home back to India, having just completed an extensive tour visiting desitute homes in, Korea, Phillippines and Japan.

A large crowd anxiously awaited her arrival at the Air India's Maharaja Lounge at Hong Kong airport. In walked a little lady hardly five feet tall clad in a white cotton saree with a blue border. She was immediately flanked on all sides by eager reporters trying to bombard her with questions. But this wonderful lady remained cool and was led to a comfortable chair where she answered the questions that were put to her in a warm and sincere manner.

"Mother Teresa, Hong Kong is a very materialistic place, what is your advice to the people of Hong Kong?" She replied "Love one another. You cannot love one another unless you know each other. To know each other you must pray. Prayer will give you a clean heart and a clean heart can see God in others. When you can see God's face in others you will begin to love one another. That kind of love cannot remain stagnant and lifeless, it goes into action. Having action is service. Works of love are always works of peace and so we become instruments of peace and that is why I pray that the people of Hong Kong will come to know one another, will come to know the poor and to put their love for God in a living action by serving the poor."

Mother Teresa originally started her mission work in Calcutta, known as The Order of Missionaries of Charity. To-day there are centres in various parts of Europe, Latin America, Africa, Australia and Asia. Reporters were keen to find out if Mother Teresa had plans of setting up a centre in Hong Kong to help the downtrodden, helpless and forgotten ones here. Mother Teresa replied that her Order was a religiously recognised one and to open a centre in Hong Kong she would need to be officially asked by the Bishop of Hong Kong. She declared that a centre will be started in Macau in June 1981 by four sisters of the Order.

Mother Teresa was then asked how did the poverty in South-East Asia compare with the poverty

On her arrival at the Hongkong Airport, Mother Teresa is seen with Mrs. Chitra Chellaram and Mrs. Bhagwanti Mohan. In the foreground is Air-India's Airport Manager.

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in India. She replied, "I do not even dare to compare the poverty between Calcutta and Delhi. The poor are poor and the rich are rich, to know the poor and to love them is important because they were made by God just like you and me."

The world recognised the immense value of her work by awarding Mother Teresa the Nobel Peace Prize in 1979. Mother Teresa was asked how she felt on receiving the Prize. "I accepted the Nobel Peace Prize in the name and glory of God and the poor, so the money belongs to the poor." Mother Teresa added that money received from the prize was being used to build hospitals centres and ammenities for the poor. How did she find those who needed help. "When I pick them up from the streets, the poor and the suffering ones, my work is to give them the fish and when they can stand on their feet I give them to you to give them the rod to catch the fish."

Mother Teresa who is Hungarian born is to-day a universal figure of love. The poor love her and the rich respect her. Mother Teresa knows no barriers, recognises no politics and does not feel restricted by the boundaries of countries, she is not hindered by obstacles and her mission is to help the poorest of the poor and society's cast offs.

What fascinated me most about Mother Teresa was her genuine concern for all, a deeprooted love and interest in everyone she met, a gift which is virtually impossible to find. Aver of love surrounds her. Her eyes beam with life and spirit. She possesses a rare magnetism which attracts all who come into her sphere.

Mother Teresa is a legend in her own time and will always be remembered. I thank my lucky stars that I had a chance to meet her. Mankind is enriched by having such a beautiful soul like Mother Teresa whose simple universal message is "Love one another".

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How Bombay Beat Scotland At Its Own Game

This is an authentic (no pun) article based on the startling revelations of a veteran Scotch supplier in Bombay.

By Binoy Thomas

"Eighty percent of the Scotch consumed in Bombay is fake." This statement comes directly from the horse's (white or any other colour) mouth. And it's the distasteful truth, nothing but the coloured and adulterated truth.

"Next to Scotland, Bombay may be the largest producer of 'Scotch' whiskey in the world," quipped an insider. Naturally, since the high and – mighty of this tinsel city exhibit an unusual thirst for this brand of fire water from across the seas.

There was a time when a fearsome local Mafia controlled and managed an international Scotch smuggling ring, ordering Scotch by the ship loads. They flourished before and during the Emergency, and one of the several 'Custom's catches' during those days was worth an astronomical Rs. 2 crores.

According to a very reliable source, large-scale smuggling of *phoren* booze has come to a slow trickle. It's a new sort of arrangement. Why import, when you can produce it locally? The thinking is along the Govt. of India lines. Only, the people who are doing the bottling are unknown to the Govt., maybe, but not to the police department. It's known that there are about fifty or sixty enterprising traders from one particular community, all operating independently, involved in brewing enough stuff to quench the thirst of Bombay and nearby towns. 'Bombay Scotch' has found its way into every strata of society, and thanks to some 'helpful' insiders even to the bars of local five star hotels.

'Bombay Scotch' is actually a mixture of original scotch (1/3) and Indian whiskey. 'Haywards', the popular Indian whiskey, is said to be a favourite with the *desi* 'Scots', which might also account for its frequent disappearance from the market.

These 'mini breweries' are spread all over Bombay, where the hooch-makers re-bottle or 'blend' the original with the local stuff. Their biggest hurdle has been the bottle caps which don't always fit or which are damaged. This has been solved effectively by the Indian engineering genius. Most of these caps are now manufactured in India illegally, and the Bombay operators pay upto Rs. 8/- per piece. The bulk of the caps comes from Delhi and the surrounding areas. Which again proves that the fate of Scotch in the capital is no better than in Bombay.

What has been a coup de grace is the duplication of the unique 'Black and White' type of cap till now considered almost foolproof.

The caps are thumb-pressed into the grooves by a sharp implement like an ice-pick. "Next time, check

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the thumb of your supplier. If it is hard on the insider, he's surely in the business himself," tips the helpful Mr. M.

It's not often that the supplier and the manufacturer are rolled into one person. Normally, the 'manufacturers' function on their own with one or two assistants. They scour the city for empty Scotch bottles, and tap all available outlets through which genuine Scotch comes into the country. These include merchant vessels, the transit shop at the airport, international passengers and Consulates, Five star hotels and airlines. Their offers are hard to beat. A cheap brand of Scotch costing Rs. 35/- in duty free countries is bought for as much as Rs. 100/- an astonishing premium which tempts even 'rich' sellers. As soon as he procures these bottles, he heads back to his little factory, knocks off the cap, pours out the contents into two other bottles, and fills the rest with Indian whiskey. Now he has three 'Scotch' bottles. His capital investment being the price paid for the original bottle plus the cost of the caps and the Indian whiskey which add up to another 100 rupees. The Indian Scotch is then sold for Rs. 110-120 per bottle. "As you can see, the margin is not all that much," the veteran supplier pointed out.

The lion's share of the genuine stuff is obtained from merchant vessels calling at the Bombay port. When they approach Bombay harbour but are still in international waters, little dug-out fishing vessels come into the bay. The bargain is struck between the illiterate *kolis* and the ships' crew in charge of the bonded items. One seamen told me recently, "You wouldn't believe your sight. They look so dirty and illiterate, but they bring on board wads of notes, in thousands, and they buy up whatever we can sell. Some of them even have foreign currencies."

These bottles are then shifted to an island off Bombay, from where they are transported to the mainland in small boats and baskets, concealed under fish. The next time, your bottle smells a little of pomfret you know what to make of it.

As a natural corollary to this 'Scotch' boom, the empty 'batliwalas' are doing brisk business. Empty premium Scotch bottles fetch between 20-25 rupees in the open market, while sought after but comparitively rare brands like 'Royal Salute' bring in upto Rs. 350/- for one bottle. Recently, during a raid on one particular empty bottle dealer, the Karwar police station is reported to have collected nearly 4,500 empty Scotch bottles from him!

What's most puzzling is that the spurious Scotch has found acceptance with high society which ought to know better. Obviously, they think they know the real thing from the 'naqli' but they don't. The supplier chuckled, "Even people who own several ships and can get any amount of original Scotch have been drinking this stuff. Even they have not caught on to it yet." Naturally, the rest of the Scotch crowd (including the nouveau-riche businessman and the film crowd) is a cake-walk as far as the supplier is concerned.

The whole Scotch circuit works on trust. Each supplier has a steady clientele which has total faith in the man. "Each of them thinks that what they are getting is the genuine stuff, while the others get the duplicate." Our supplier friend put his finger on the success formula. When asked if every single supplier in the city, was involved, he revealed, "Maybe, some of the Parsis don't do it. But the rest of them, including me, do it. I am telling you frankly."

It's a wonder people haven't smelt a rat yet. After all, Scotch flows like water in Bombay, and is available to anyone willing to pay the price. The Govt. doesn't import all that much, and the smuggling is coming to a standstill. Then where do the nearly 1000/1500 bottles, guzzled daily, in a city like Bombay come from? In Bombay there are an estimated 500 suppliers catering to the illegal foreign liquor market. Some of the most popular brand names, that lend their flavour to the process are 'Johnny Walker', 'White Label', 'Haig', 'Black & White', 'White Horse', 'Vat 69'.

'Scotch' is not the only 'victim' suffering from Indianisation. There is no drink that can't do with a profitable *desi* touch. This bit of news might take the fizz out of those high society bubbly occasions where champagne and wine flow like the Godavari. But it's true that even these exotic throat-wetters don't escape unharmed in the hands of these master craftsmen.

Cheap Russian Champagne is given a *tres* expensive French look with locally printed labels and sold as vintage stuff from that country.

Another per trick is to palm off what's known as 'Sparkling Wine' as Champagne. These bottles are corked, and open with a 'pop' like Champagne. When the labels are changed, there is no way the eager (and ignorant) guzzler can tell the difference.

Wine is no exception, though most of the empty bottles (raw material in other words) in this case come from the consulates. Indian wine in foreign containers, fitted with exquisitely faked covers and labels. Our frank supplier added dead pan, "Some of them are even totally non-existent brands of wine which are sold to people who don't know much about wine!" Apparently, some of them are exotic enough to make you wonder where the 'bania' learned his French!

This is the story of Scotch, the produce of Scotland, meeting the East in a glorious union. It's also enough to give the high society types a 'new hangover' to brood over.

One last tip: the next time you find yourself with an empty bottle, don't give it away. It might come right back to you like a boomerang!

Courtesy: Society, Bombay

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Habba Khatun

Romantic Poetess - Queen of Kashmir

The film based on the story of a country lass, who was destined to become the celebrated poetess – queen of Kashmir, not only became popular in the Elysian Vale, but has been telecast twice so far in Delhi TV's screening of regional films. Mrs. Asha Dhar, who has written on the women, customs, and arts and crafts of Kashmir and writes 'Visit India' and other serial articles for us, recounts the romantic but tragic tale of the poetess, Habba Khatun and her lover king, Yusuf Shah, which is comparable with that of Rupmati and Baz Bhadur. – Editor

A peasant lass became the queen of Kashmir, in the second half of the 16th century, and expressed the deepest cravings of the heart in love poetry. Her name was Habba Khatun and the story of her chequered life a romance that might well have made the stuff of a Tennysonian poem. She was foremost among the precursors of the romantic movement in Kashmiri poetry. Her love songs were remarkable for melody and passionate spontaneity. Her romantic life – well portrayed in the film, enlivened by the natural scenery of the Kashmiri countryside – is as remarkable as her lyrics, for the height of glory that a peasant girl could aspire to, followed by unfortunate tragedy which lent poignant pathos to her later poems.

Born in 1550 A.D. in village Chandahar, off the Srinagar-Jammu road in the picturesque countryside of Pampur, celebrated for saffron fields, Zooni (that was Habba Khatun's maiden name) was a precocious child in the family of a landlord, Abdullah Rather, and learnt the Quran and the Persian classics. She became famous in the village for her impressive recitation of the Holy Book. Abdullah Rather was scared by her fame and married her off to a peasant who lived in the nearby village, Ledpore.

SPONTANEOUS SONGS

The gifted bride burst into song which her illiterate husband could not appreciate. He and his parents found Zooni no good as a helping hand in farming. What had a country housewife to do with song, they would taunt! There was thus constant conflict during her early married life. Out of it was born a nostalgic and melancholy strain that not only characterised her love songs but became a prominent trait of the poetry of her period. Her love lyrics bore the inimitable stamp of spontaneous bird song, as it were. Her songs, however, spilled beyond the village confines and her fame reached the capital city of Srinagar.

One day while she was singing one of her own songs, on a terraced paddy field, she caught the eye of Prince Yusuf Shah, who fell in love with her at first sight. He asked her who she was. She replied in a quatrain, composed on the spot. He knew that she was Habba Khatun, the name that had been given to her by sage of Pampur, Khawja Masud. The Prince arranged for her divorce, and married her. After the death of his father, in 1579 A.D., Yusuf Shah ascended the throne of Kashmir.

NUR JEHAN OF KASHMIR

Habba Khatun, the queen, became the royal patron of art and letters. She and her royal consort, Yusuf Shah Chak – that was his full name as the Sultan of Kashmir of the Chak dynasty – founded Gulmarg, the "meadow of flowers", after they discovered the upland meadow in one of their sojourns of the Valley. No wonder that Habba Khatun has been called the Nur Jehan of Kashmir, though she is remembered more as a singer of love songs than the queen who advised the Sultan on matters of State.

Habba Khatun sang of love in its varied moods – passionate longing, disappointment at unrequited love, fear of infidelity and the continuous felling of insecurity to which lovers are subjected by the darts of Cupid.

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One of her popular love-lyrics runs thus:

The distant meadows are in bloom,
Hast thou not heard my plaint?
Flowers bloom on mountain lakes,
Come, let us to mountain meads.
The lilac blooms in distant woods,
Hast thou not heard my plaint?

LOVES AND LONGING

Lol-lyric is the typical verse form that was popularised by Habba Khatun – and comprises her lasting contribution to the poetry of Kashmir. *Lol* is a Kashmiri word that defies the translator. It is an emotional complex of passionate love and longing, pining for what should be possible but is not attainable in the thorny path of love. A short, melodious poem expressing a single, complete mood, the *Lol*-lyric runs from six to ten lines.

The love poems exemplify Habba Khatun as an ardent and expectant lover, like this one:

In quest of thee I'll wander
about the hill-streams,
Shall I find thee nowhere, my love?
I will search the wild jasmine
woods for thee,
Shall I not meet thee once again, my love?
The wild rose is in bloom.
Wilt thou not come to me, my love?
Beauty's fairest paragons are in their prime,
Shall I find thee nowhere, my love?

Even the happy *Lol*-lyrics are tinged with a trace of melancholy and blended with a pervasive sense of insecurity:

I've waited long and patiently,
My heart is numb and idle and empty of hopes;
Sweet is the ritual of love.
I would deck my love with ornament,
And in henna dye his hands.
I would annoint his body with fragrant kisses,
And offer him wine in gold goblets.
The lotus of love would block in the lake of my heart,
Say, friend, when will the foe smile on me?

The love-lyrics of Habba Khatun had become popular in her day even before she married the Sultan. The *Lol*-songs of her happier days, as queen of Kashmir, were prized by her subjects, who knew that she tried her best at the palace that justice tempered by mercy should be the law of the country. Here is one of her well-known lyrics, in which, as is common in Kashmiri poetry, the distraught lover addresses her plaint to her (girl) friend:

Come friends, let us to banks and braes,
to gather yellow-flowered dandelion.
Silently and Stealthily,
Without a word of warning,
he did steal away from me.

Dear, come, O come to me:
They knew it all, they know –
And now talk ill of me,
In rumour and in gossip rude.
When will the tangled web of fate be unravelled?
Dear, come, O come to me.

TRAGEDY

The even tenor of the royal romance of Sultan Yusuf Shah Chak and Habba Khatun was rudely upset by grim events – serious communal disturbances breaking out between the Muslim sects of Shias and Sunnis, at Srinagar. The Mughal Emperor, Akbar, intervened, and sent a strong army, which took Sultan Yusuf Shah prisoner. Habba Khatun left the palace to roam over the countryside. The erstwhile romantic melancholy of her lyrics took on a note of passionate rebelliousness, as in the sad ditty:

In henna I dyed my hands,
When will he come to me?
O come, and still my craving,
See, how I am dying for thee,
Without thee how shall I fill my days?
How can I endure thine absence, Love?
Say, friend, when will fate smile on me,
And, my love come to me again?
Say when?

The poetess-queen who in her heyday had spanned the river Jhelum at Srinagar with one more bridge – it is still named after her, as Habba Kadal – was pining for the release of her consort from captivity. But who would help her against the will of the Mughal Emperor? The Governor of Kashmir issued a warrant for her arrest. The order was withdrawn when he was told that she lived like a mendicant.

After two years of custody at Lahore, Yusuf Shah was awarded a *Jagir* (rent-free land) in Bengal by Akbar. He died soon after. The news reached Habba Khatun, breaking her heart. No more producing love lyrics, she composed what might have been her own epitaph:

I came of peasant parentage,
And made a name as Habba Khatun,
I passed through crowds, drawing tight my veil,
But people flocked to see me;
And even the ascetics hurried out of woods,
To catch a glimpse of me.

The *Lol*-lyrics of Habba Khatun survive to this day, sung to the accompaniment of *Saz, Santoor, Noet* and *Tumbaknari* – musical instruments which the Kashmiri musicians have made their own. Even illiterate peasants in the remotest corners of the Happy Valley sing her love songs – soulful expressions of the joys and pangs of love, and the sorrow of loss and bereavement. To mark her death anniversary (she died in 1606 A.D.) at the age of 56, a celebration is held yearly at her tomb, in a suburb of Srinagar.

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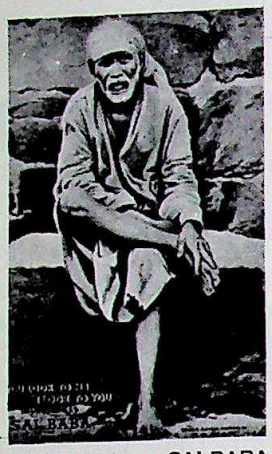

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Grandma's Cookery

VEGETARIAN DISHES

Avalakki

This is a very simple light breakfast dish which is easy to make. It is a very common dish in Karnataka.

Ingredients required:

2 cups beaten rice
2 tablespoons grated coconut
2 red chillies
1 teaspoon black gram dhal
1 teaspoon bengal gram dhal
½ teaspoon mustard
A pinch of sugar
Salt to taste
Oil for frying

Method:

Clean beaten rice and wash thoroughly. Allow water to drain off and keep aside for a few minutes.

Heat oil and add mustard seeds. When they crackle add red chillies broken into 2 bits, black gram dhal and bengal gram dhal. Fry well until both the dhals turn golden brown.

Add beaten rice, salt to taste and sugar to tast. Mix well and remove from fire after a few minutes.

Add grated coconut and serve hot.

Salad

1 tomato
1 cucumber
1 carrot
1 onion
Salt to taste
Lime juice to taste

Peel and slice the above vegetables into thin slices and sprinkle lime juice and salt to taste.

Stuffed Parathas

The stuffing for parathas can consist of either boiled potatoes, cauliflower, radish peas etc.

Ingredients required:

2 cups of wheat flour
2 teaspoons vanaspathi or ghee
½ teaspoon garam masala powder
¼ teaspoon chilli powder
¼ teaspoon turmeric powder
A small piece of ginger
1 cup finely grated vegetable (if potatoes are used they should be mashed)
1 onion
Juice of 1 lime
A few sprigs coriander leaves
Salt to taste
Ghee for frying

Method:

Add salt to wheat flour along with ghee or vanaspathi and knead to a smooth dough. Keep aside for an hour.

Chop onions, ginger and chillies.

Heat oil or ghee and fry onions until golden brown. Add ginger, green chillies, turmeric powder, chilli powder, garam masala powder and salt to taste. Fry well for a few minutes and add grated vegetable. Allow to cook on a slow fire until well done and absolutely dry Squeeze lime juice and add chopped coriander leaves. Use this as filling for parathas.

Take a small portion of the dough and roll out into a small chappathi. Apply a little ghee or vanaspathi and place a little of the filling on it. Seal well on all sides and roll out into a chappathi. Heat a tawa and fry well on both sides using ghee until well done.

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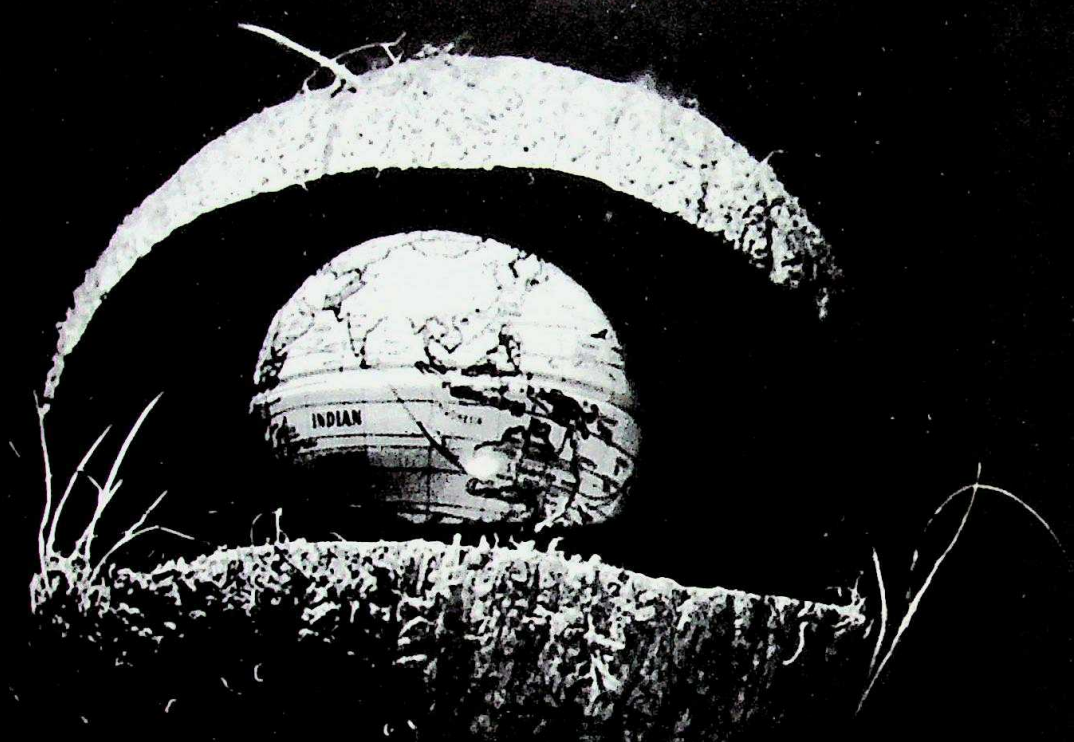

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From Filmland

PRESIDENT AWARDS FOR BEST FILMS

The Bengali film "Aakaler Sandhane" has been adjudged the best feature film of 1980 by the 28th national film festival headed by Dr. V. Shantaram. It wins the "Golden Lotus."

The producer of the film, Mr. Dhiresh Kumar Chakraborty gets the Swaran Kamal and a cash prize of Rs. 50,000. Mrinal Sen, director of the film, gets the Swaran Kamal and a cash prize of Rs. 25,000.

Oppol (Malayalam) gets the award for the "second best feature film". The producer, Mrs. Rosamma George, gets the Rajat Kamal and a cash prize of Rs. 30,000 and the director, K. S. Sethumadhavan, gets the Rajat Kamal and a cash prize of Rs. 15,000.

Oppol has won three more awards – the best actor award for Balan K. Nair, the best child actor award for Aravind and the best female play-back singer award for S. Janaki.

Ketan Mehta's Gujarati film "Bhavani Bhavai" has been adjudged the best feature film on national integration. The producer, Sanchar Film Co-operative Society Ltd., gets the Rajat Kamal and a cash prize of Rs. 30,000 and Ketan Mehta, director, gets the Rajat Kamal and a cash prize of Rs. 15,000.

Smita Patel has won the award for best actress for her role in the Hindi feature film "Chakra."

In all, 79 films were entered in the festival, including three films in Assamese, ten in Bengali, four in Gujarati, 20 in Hindi, ten in Kannada, eight in Malayalam, three in Marathi, five in Oriya, two in Punjabi, four in Tamil, three in Telugu and seven children's films.

The feature film, "Aakrosh" directed by Govind Nihalani, won the best Hindi feature film award.

Among the regional languages, "Anirban" gets the best feature film award in Assamese, "Harak Rajar Deshe" in Bengali. "Yagam" in Malayalam, "Chann Pardesee" in Punjabi, "Nenjathi Killathe in Tamil and "Harischendruc.u" in Telugu.

No film was awarded the special jury prize. Also, no film was found suitable for the best children's film award.

No film was considered suitable for awards in Gujarati, Kannada, Marathi and Oriya. There were no entries in English, Kashmiri, Manipuri and Sindhi.

Smita Patil receiving the Best Actress Award of 1980 from the President for her role in Hindi film 'Chakra'.

P. Jairaj, winner of the Dada Saheb Phalhe Award, with President Reddy before receiving the award at the 28th National Film Festival Awards.

President Reddy presenting the Best Child Actor award to Master Arvind for his role in 'Oppol' as Mr. Vasant Sathe gives an encouraging applause.

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LOVE & DEVOTION

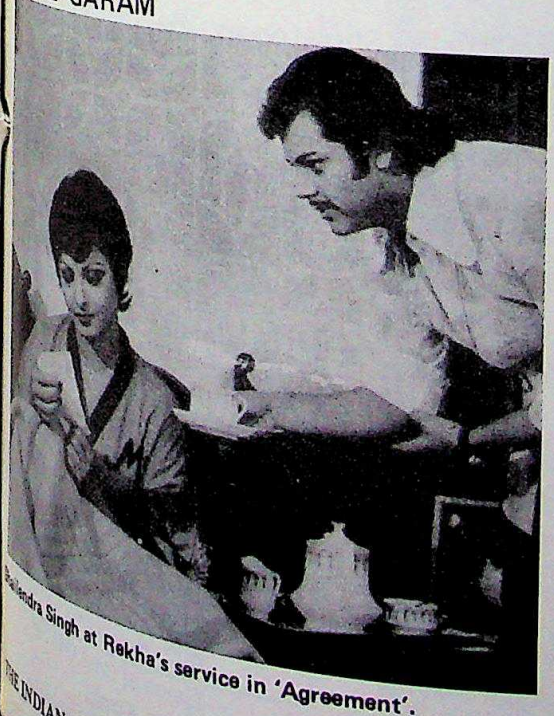
Nargis & Sunil Dutt in happier days.

Mrs. Nargis Dutt, M.P., and one of the finest actresses Indian cinema has ever known died at the Breach Candy Hospital after a protracted illness. She was 52. Suffering from cancer of the pancreas, Nargis had battled bravely for life and underwent months of treatment in New York. She returned to Bombay on March 6, received a rousing welcome from her fans as she was driven home but ten days later had to be admitted to hospital.

Her family consisting of husband Sunil Dutt, the popular actor-director, their 21-year-old son Sunjay who is making his debut in a film to be released soon, and daughters, Namrata (18), and Priya (16), were by her side when the end came.

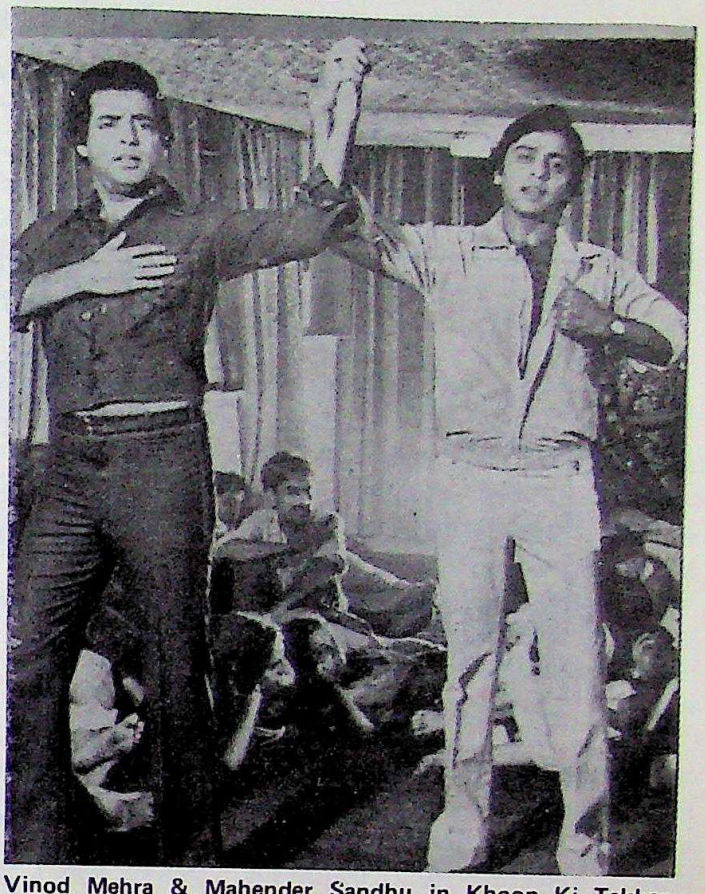
Her body was taken for burial according to Nargis' express wish that she should be buried next to her mother, Jaddanbai, at the Sonapur burial grounds. At Sonapur, Sunil Dutt and Sunjay offered prayers according to Islamic rites. They were joined in the 'namaz' by Maharashtra's chief minister, Mr. A.R. Antulay. Prayers were also offered by Hindu, Muslim, Zorastrian and Christian priests.

CHAYE GARAM



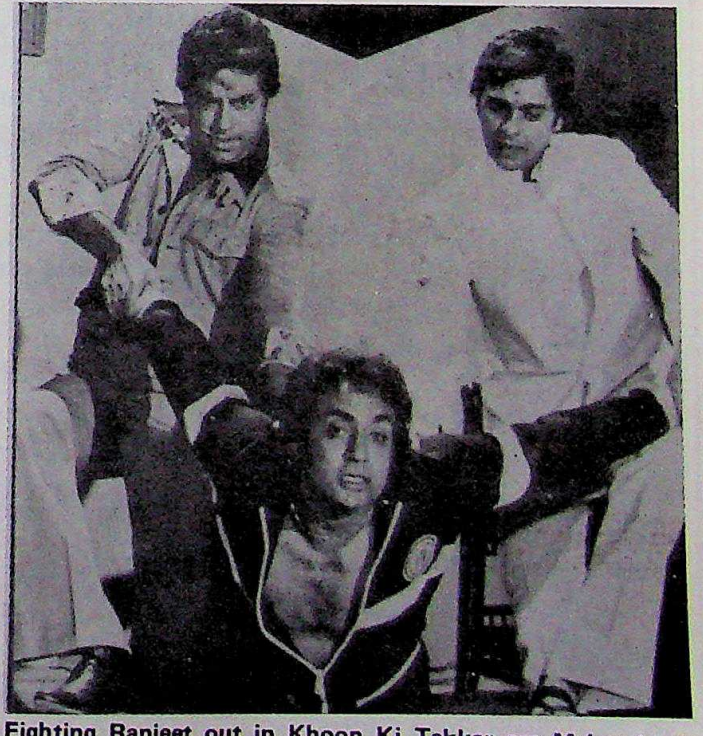
Rajendra Singh at Rekha's service in 'Agreement'.

UNITED WE STAND



Vinod Mehra & Mahender Sandhu in Khoon Ki Takkar, a usual film theme about a rich man Om Shivpuri, who ditches poor woman Chand Usmani. Om begets Vinod Mehra as does Chand beget Mahender Sandhu. Vinod wants to marry Zarina Wahab, but Om says No. Mahender is gunning for the defiler of his mother's honour. In the meanwhile, Ranjeet, posing as Om's long-lost son, walks into Om's place. After the usual denouement, another 'natural' thing happens – the film ends.

BAD MAN OUT



Fighting Ranjeet out in Khoon Ki Takkar are Mahender & Vinod.

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Tours & Travel

PALACE-HOTEL SHARES OFFERED

Benaras Hotels is offering shares worth Rs. six million to the public to meet part of the cost of its 84 room hotel in Nadesar Palace in Varanasi. The hotel has been jointly promoted by former Maharaja of Benaras and the Indian Hotel company - Taj group of Hotels.

STAND-BY-MAHARAJA

Air India may consider introducing 'stand by' (concessional) fares for vacant seats, Tourism Minister A.P. Sharma told Parliament on April, 10. Sharma said that Al had no plan for around the globe flights. Al was negotiating with the North West Airlines of the US on route a collaboration prospects.

MILLION LIGHTS AT PALAM

Category II lighting system at Delhi airport has been installed at a cost of Rs. 17 million, enabling planes to land and take off even during poor visibility conditions.

KATHAMANDU LURE

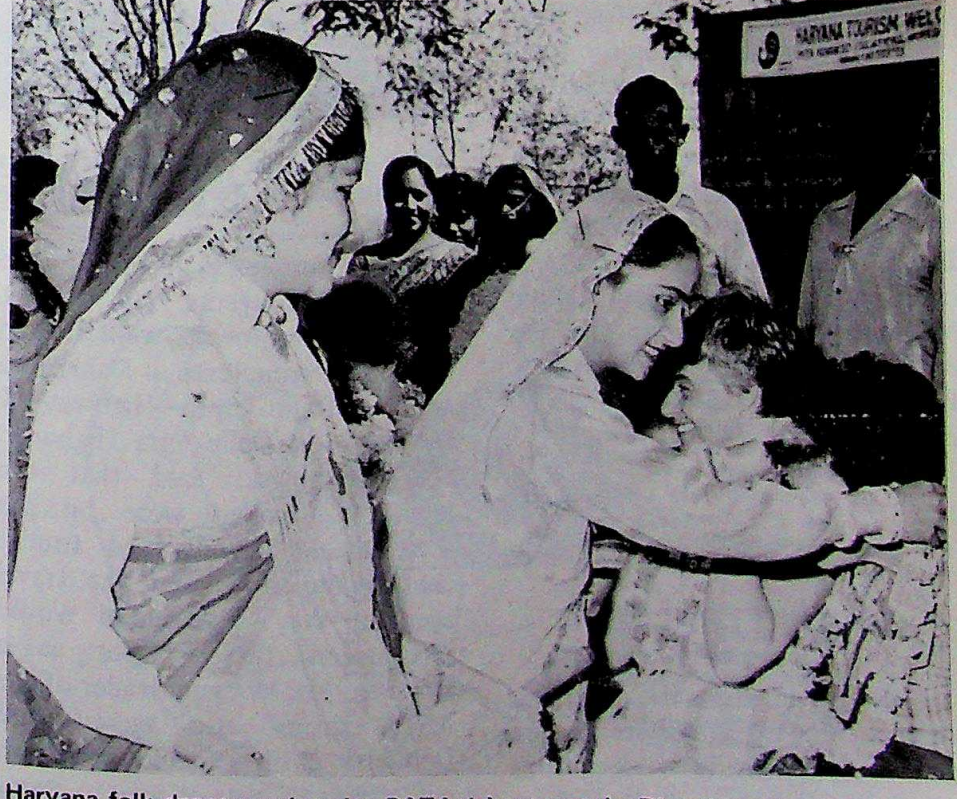
Hotel Narayani, Kathamandu, is offering a 50 per cent discount to all employees and families of airlines and travel agencies from May 1st to September 30, 1981 for FITs and groups.

TOUR HARYANA
CLOSER EXPERIENCE WITH NATURE

Haryana Tourism, a State Govt. undertaking in Northern India is a pioneer in tourism development in the country. Known for its beautiful complexes, named after birds, as well as facilities for affluent & budget tourists, it has tourist complexes on the National highways, district head-quarters & at other strategic points. The Haryana Tourism Corporation is actively busy in adding tourist facilities & in giving a new shape to the existing ones.

Sohna Tourist Complex, known for its hot sulpher springs, is receiving a large number of domestic & foreign tourists. Four more air-conditioned rooms have been built here. Cheaper accommodation, such as camper huts have also been made available for the budget tourists. A house plant nursery has been set up for tourists to take home house-plants of their choice.

At the popular tourist resort Badkhal Lake, New Delhi, another 8 air-conditioned rooms have been added. These will also have T.V. & refrigerators. The existing swimming pool is being expanded. A 25-acre Vegitable Farm is being developed to provide fresh vegitables for consumption in the tourist restaurants. A new link road of 8 kms. is nearing completion which will connect Badkhal Lake with Surajkund tourist complex. In the middle of the road, near Anangpur village, a tourist



Haryana folk dancers welcoming PATA delegates at the Dharuhera Tourist Complex.

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village will be developed to give the tourist an insight to the rural life of Haryana.

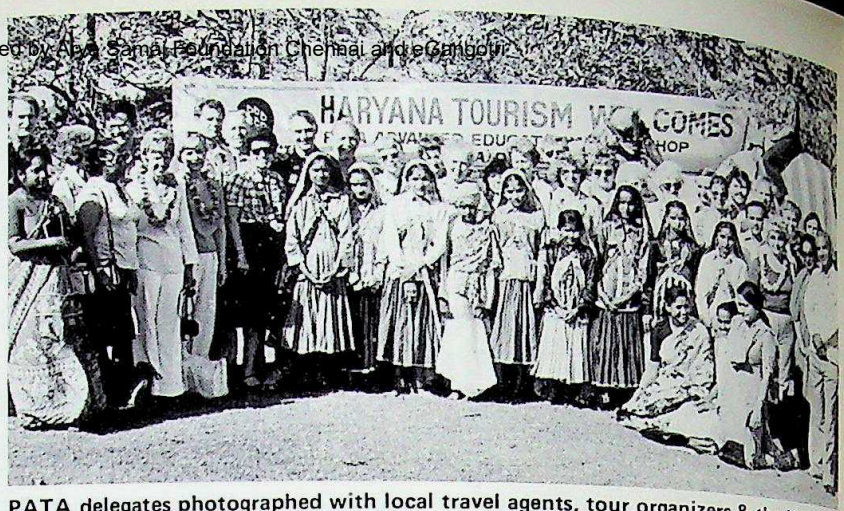
On way to Agra, the city of Taj, six-room motel has been added at Dabchick Tourist Complex. A swimming pool, an emporium & a folk-art-museum will be set up here soon. At Surajkund, six more air-conditioned rooms have been added to cope-up with the increasing demand of the tourists. Another tourist complex 'Surkhab' was recently added to the chain of tourist complexes, at Sirsa Distt. headquarters, Damdama, only 46 kms. from Delhi, it is being developed as a fishing resort for angling & picnic. A snack Bar has already been opened at Damdama to begin with.

The Haryana Tourism Corporation is also intending to introduce shortly 'Shahin' Tourist Excursion services on the pattern of 'Greyhound' tourist services with the collaboration of Haryana Transport Department. These services will be run to the tourist places within the State and other important tourist destination in the country. The air-conditioned luxury buses will have the facilities of music, tourist-guide, soft drinks & even a toilet.

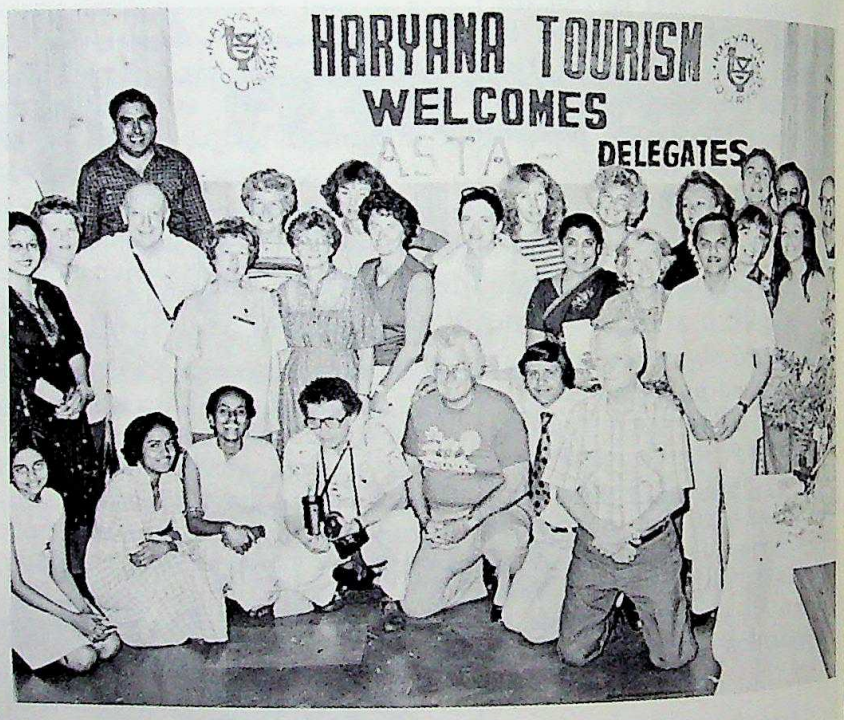
Haryana Tourism added another tourist complex named after Bird 'Shikra' recently, bringing the total number of tourist complexes of Haryana to 30 among which Karna Lake at Uchana, Yadvindra Garden at Pinjore are well heard of. 'Shikra' is nearly 350 kms. from Delhi. This tourist complex will cater to the travellers visiting Mandi-Sangiria, Hanumangarh, Suratgarh in neighbouring Rajasthan, Fazilka in Punjab & Mandi Dabwali in Haryana.

GOOD-ATTRACTION

A delegation from the American Society of Travel Agents & the Pacific Area Travel Associations visited the Dabchick & Dharuhera Tourist Complexes recently. The PATA travel agents, led by Ms. Katherine Wesolowski, went around the tourist complexes at Dahruhera on the Delhi-Jaipur Highway & Dabchick on Delhi-Agra Highway. Ms. Wesolowski said that the facilities provided were on par with those at advanced tourist centres abroad & that the travel agencies they represented would recommend these places as a stopover. Ms. McCann, leader of the ASTA group also agreed that Dabchick, with so much to offer, will attract tourists on way to Agra.



PATA delegates photographed with local travel agents, tour organizers & the Haryana folk dancers.



ASTA delegates at the Dabchick Tourist Complex. Mr. L.K. Bakshi, General Manager Haryana Tourism, who conducted the tour, is seen standing at the right.

AIR-INDIA INAUGURATES NEW SERVICE

Air-India has increased its operations within Africa by the inauguration of a new scheduled service between Bombay and Salisbury, Zimbabwe, once a week from April 14 by Boeing 707 aircraft.

The first flight was made on 14th April, and will be followed by weekly B707 services leaving Bombay every Tuesday, and returning from Salisbury every Wednesday.

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IA NO MORE IN RED

Indian Airlines – India's domestic airline – effected a saving of Rs. 65 million in its expenditure during the period April 1980 to January 1981. This is straight from the horse's mouth – stated by India's Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation A.P. Sharma in Parliament on February 24, 1981. He said this economy was the result of a number of economy measures taken by the IA. The steps include rationalisation of operations (better capacity utilisation, etc.), reduction in overtime and manpower costs as well as exercise of strict control on expenditure.

The IA Chairman, Mr. A.H. Mehta, who is happy that the airlines is not any more in the red, has also claimed considerable improvement in the last seven months in flight punctuality. This should be happy news to IA passengers from abroad who have been bothered by the non-observance of flight schedules or cancellation of flights at very short notice. Mr. Mehta stated that actually punctuality was 98 per cent upward in regularity in normal weather, while it varied between 84 and 88 per cent under foggy or bad weather conditions.

AI COMPUTERISED

As for the national airline, Air-India, it has commissioned its instant response "real time online" passenger reservation computer with query consoles at the Bombay and New Delhi ticket booking offices. Initially the UNIVAC computer installed in Bombay will handle ex-New Delhi and ex-Bombay flight bookings. Subsequently, passenger bookings from other places in the country will also be processed by this system.

Passenger bookings and stop-over information about traffic originating elsewhere with destinations in India will continue to be processed by the British Airways computer in London.

The Air India computer has cost over Rs. 40 million to instal and equip. Next year another computer will be acquired to cope with Air India's expanding activities, besides spares, inventory control and pay roll processing.

Air India also is effecting economy. Certain unremunerative AI offices in India and abroad have been closed. Additional capacity has been deployed on more remunerative routes.

The inauguration of the third level service, namely, VAYUDOOT, on January 26, the Republic Day, is a landmark in domestic flying. The airline, to serve as a feeder service in the north-eastern region, was started from Gauhati. Its tickets will cost 30 per cent less than IA passages.

When we consider these facts with the rise in tourist traffic last year (4.6 compared to 2.6 in 1979), one can visualise fair prospects for our domestic and international airlines in the current air.

— **Somnath Dhar**

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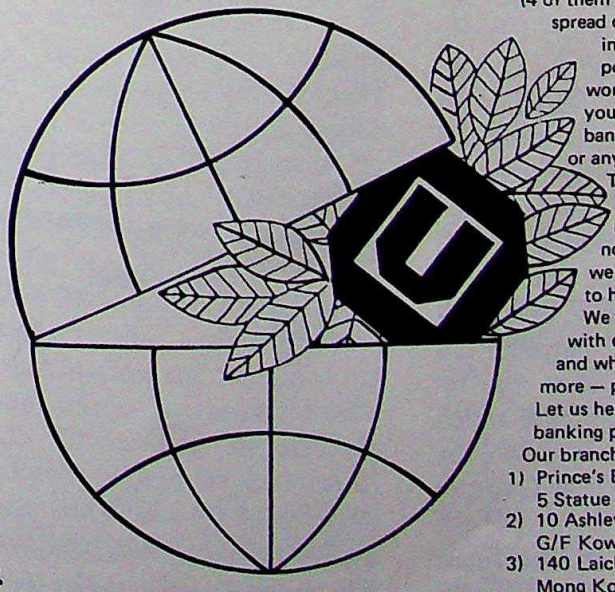

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Swinging On Sunny Slopes At Gulmarg

By Somnath Dhar

Attracting skiers from a number of foreign countries, Gulmarg has shot into prominence as a sophisticated ski resort which is also the cheapest in the world. Skiing (the season goes on from December to March) is in full swing at the Kashmir resort – 51 km from Srinagar, the air-head, conveniently reached via Indian Airlines' Airbus direct flight from Delhi or Boeing 737 flight via Amritsar. Taxis and de luxe buses connect Srinagar with Jammu, the rail-head, for the one-day journey over the all-weather highway through Jawahar Tunnel.

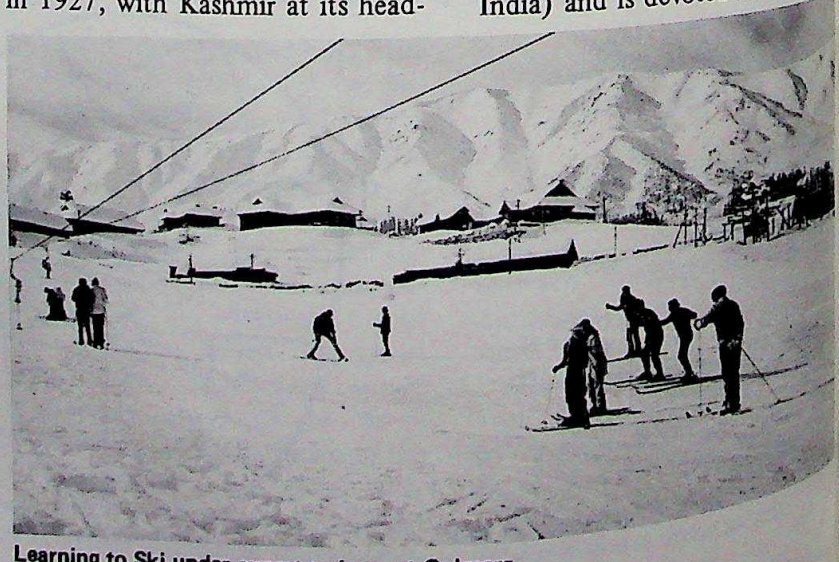
Last winter, Gulmarg received more than 10,000 tourists, including about 4,000 foreigners – the latter hailing from Europe, the U.S.A., Australia, Hong Kong, Thailand, etc. This year will be a foreign tourists' boom, judging from the reservations made for groups from the U.S.A., France, Hong Kong, Japan and Singapore. Many skiers from Asia and Europe coming for the international ski competitions. Among the foreigners in the said tally (which for foreigners was just 900 in 1977) are members from the diplomatic corps stationed in New Delhi and some of the consular corps in the metropolitan towns. That the repeat visits of foreigners have varied from 40 to 95 per cent shows the increasing popularity of Gulmarg as a winter resort.

Blessed with one of the finest environments for skiing, the dry and exhilarating climate of Gulmarg excels that of any Alpine resort. Gulmarg receives about 25 feet of snowfall in winter and the powdery quality of the snow, together with the pleasant, sunny weather it enjoys (no Alpine blizzards) make it ideal for skiing conditions.

SAGA OF SKIING

The introduction of skiing – the premier winter sport – in Gulmarg is an interesting story. The discovery that Kashmir possessed possibilities for the ski-runner, which could match any other country, was made in the twenties. Even earlier, during the first World War, European troops and winter vacationers in Kashmir took an interest in skiing in Gulmarg. The Ski Club of India was established in 1927, with Kashmir at its headquarters. During World War II, when Kashmir served as a huge vest camp for the Allied forces, skiing at Gulmarg attained the peak of its popularity with the professionals. It was considered the 'in' thing to celebrate Christmas and the Easter in Gulmarg, and both the festivals were celebrated with eclat, *a la* M.M. Kaye's *The Far Pavilions*. At that point, until India's Independence in 1947, Gulmarg was the only ski resort in Asia. Japan came in later with its fine ski centres.

The Ski School was renamed the Indian Institute of Skiing and Mountaineering in 1967, and the training of instructors (in Austria and other sky centres of Europe) was started. By mid-seventies, there were 25 qualified ski instructors. The Institute is run by the Department of Tourism (of the Govt. of India) and is devoted to mountain-



Learning to Ski under expert trainers at Gulmarg.

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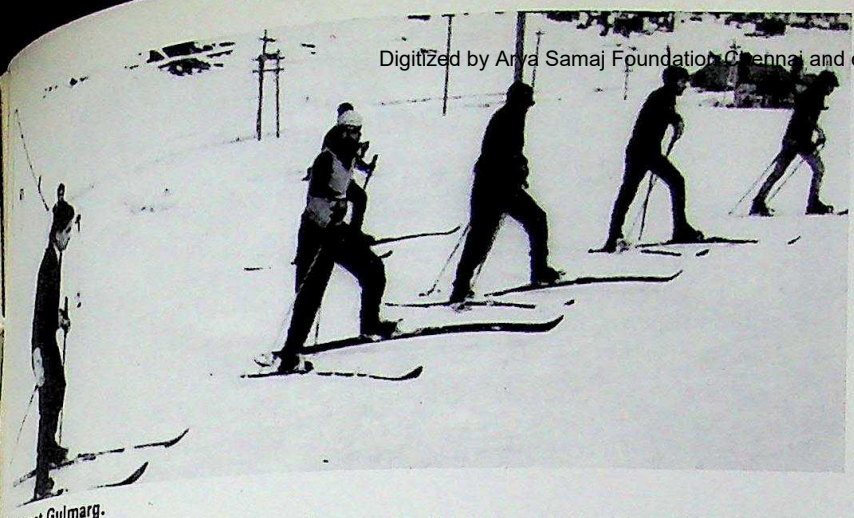

Skiers at Gulmarg.

related sports for the benefit of domestic and foreign tourists, as well as, a latter attraction, water-skiing in summer on the Dal and Nagin lakes, off Srinagar. Having trained about 2000 persons in skiing during the last decade, the Institute can well be proud of its record.

Short ski courses – of 10 to 30-days' duration – are conducted, costing the learner Rs. 1150 and only Rs. 600 if the skier is below 30 years. This includes board and lodging, cost of instruction and hire of equipment, mostly of the latest type. All in all, Gulmarg is the most economical resort in Asia for learning and practising skiing, and enjoying other winter sports. The foreigner pays $ 140 for the 21-day course, which, working out at about $7 a day, is surely the lowest in the world. Five such courses are slated for this season to be followed by champion-ship runs.

ACE INSTRUCTOR RASHID . . .

As against a T-bar (lift for beginners) and a 500-metre chair lift operating earlier on the slopes, there are now four highly sophisticated ski-lifts (imported from France), catering to four new slopes for beginners as well as the good skiers. During a recent visit (last autumn), I saw these lifts being installed, and the chair-lift being painted yellow and crimson (the colours that stand out in the glistening white backdrop of snow in the sun), and all are fitted with the latest automatic safety devices. I was shown one of the slopes by Mr. Abdul Rashid (who knows the terrain, with or without the mantle of snow, like the palm of his hand) where skiing will go on in the night at spring time, because in the spring snow conditions are not good for skiing by day.

Abdul Rashid is one of the ace ski instructors of the State. He runs the state tourist office in Gulmarg. Tourism Commissioner D.N. Kachroo had told me in Srinagar that Rashid is one of the Department's experienced and widely travelled officers. I recalled the ski resorts of Austria and the French and the Swiss Alps that I had seen, as Rashid retailed his thrilling experiences. Narrating the skiing and mountaineering adventures that he and 13 others (three ski trainees selected like him on an all-India basis had died of accidents and mishaps) had at these resorts, he gave me an idea of the prescribed rigorous standards which had to be reached before they were certified by the Federation of International Skiers in the early seventies. Rashid looked forward to the night skiing to be introduced for the first time under halogen lights.

I told Rashid Sahib – as I addressed him like his many friends and contacts did – that Gulmarg had a fascination for me since my boyhood days. My uncle, Pandit Gobindji Bhan, was an engineer in the Public Works Department at Gulmarg, and I used to spend summer vacations there, in the thirties and later. In 1946, when I was teaching at S.P. College, Srinagar, I had a long chat with Jawaharlal Nehru in a hut, near the P.W.D. office, which I recorded, inter alia, in my reminiscences of the great man for the Nehru Memorial Library. During Bhan Sahib's tenure, I was responsible for making two ponies lame by my careless and reckless driving, and as if by retribution (Karma account settled in this life) a mettlesome pony, suddenly shying at a corner, caused me to fall and I broke five transverse bones in my back. Since then I haven't ridden a pony – I had to tell Rashid Sahib, declining his offer of a ride to Khillanmarg, where I saw one of the new lifts.

. . . AND THE PROSPECTS

Khillanmarg (800 feet above Gulmarg, which itself is 8700 feet above sea level) is the cynosure of ski enthusiasts, as the venue of ski competitions. The view from Khillanmarg, of the cup-shaped mountain meadow of Gulmarg, and the Pir Panjal mountains, amidst which snow-topped Nanga Parbat (26,696 feet) peak can be spotted on a clear day, is stunning. This will be the base of the Gondola Cabin Car, taking the skier up to Apharwat Mount (13,400'), providing 10 km of ski run, with an altitude drop of 4000 feet, exceeding the prescribed Olympic specifications. This project, to cost Rs. 5 crores, should be complete in two years. Yet one more planned ski-life, going up from the top of the chair-lift, will provide a 2.5 km ski run.

Coming down the pony track from Khillanmarg, we talked about the imperative need for the optimum accommodation if Gulmarg is to be become an international ski resort. Rashid showed me the fibre-glass windows which are insulated against the cold at Highland Park, Woodlands and Nedou's hotels (the last taken over by the Taj group) against the cold – the night temperature can fall as low as 8 to 10 degrees below

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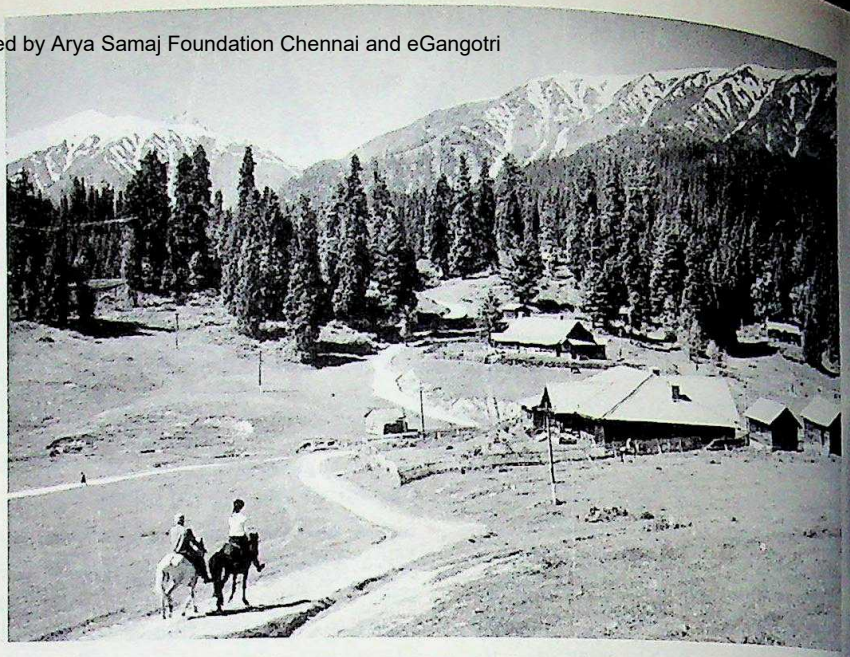
zero C. The Dak Bungalow, with 25 centrally-heated rooms, newly constructed by the Jammu and Kashmir Tourism Development Corporation, would be a boon to skiing and other tourists who come for the snow and the sun. Amenities such as these have to be optimum so that Gulmarg takes its place on the international ski map.

The ski potential of Kashmir has yet to be fully explored – and exploited. Venture some skiing enthusiasts have found many mountain ranges skirted with gentle slopes which can provide miles of skiing thrills. The region above Sonamarg in the north, the long glacier surrounding the Kolahai peak in the north-east, Jamianwali-gali, Tratakutti and the Pir Panjal hills, have also been visited by some enterprising skiers and declared ski-worthy in summer, though almost inaccessible in winter and spring. The said Institute started some skiing courses at Sonamarg last May. Situated on the Srinagar-Leh highway, Sonamarg has snow on the Thajiwas glacier throughout the year. Such ventures open the prospect of skiing in all seasons.



Pony rides constitute a delight in Gulmarg in spring and summer.

"An ideal country for tourist traffic" (Jawaharlal Nehru) Kashmir will surely become the "Playground of Asia", and Gulmarg will take its place amongst the renowned ski resorts of the world, like those of Switzerland, Austria, France, etc. To that end, a master plan (to cost Rs. 30 crores) is now under implementation to make it a year-round resort.

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Indians Abroad

ETHIOPIA

ALL INDIA SECONDARY EXAMINATION

The Indian National School of Addis Ababa/Ethiopia; has achieved the distinction of sending its first ever batch of students to the All-India Secondary School Examination; conducted by the Central Board Of Secondary Education: New-Delhi in March, 1981. The Examination was held in the premises of the Embassy Of India — under the over-all superintendence of Shri B.P. Singh-First Secretary in the Indian Embassy.

The Indian National School was established in the capital of Ethiopia-Addis Ababa — in the year of Indian Independence — 1947. Only Indian Nationals are allowed to get admission in the school. This school is recognized by the Ethiopian Ministry Of Education as well as by the Indian Central Board Of Secondary education, New Delhi. The curriculum, syllabii, and text-books prescribed by the Board are followed in all the classes from grade I to Grade X. There is provision for teaching of French and Amharic ((the official Ethiopian language) besides English, Hindi, and Sanskrit. The medium of instruction is English though. As prescribed by the C.B.S.E. special provision has been made for work-experience to the students in type-writing, sewing and gardening.

The Indian National School has its own building and has more than 14 class rooms, laboratories, library, playground and a big auditorium. It also has provision for pre-school children like Kindergarten and Nursery. The Central Board is being requested to grant recognition for opening of grade XI and XII under the '+2' stage of 10+2 Scheme of the School Education.

The total enrollment in the School at present is about 150 students. There are Eleven well qualified full-time teachers; and a highly experienced lady principal Shrimati Krishna Sehgal. Apart from this there are six devoted lecturers who sacrifice their precious time for the students by their honorary services.

The Indian National School, is a private institution-financed by the generous donations from the Indian Community and is managed by the Managing Committee appointed by the Indian Association and Board Of Trustees.

The whole credit goes to the Trustees, the Managing Committee and in general to the Indian Community of Addis Ababa that the school has reached this stage of progress inspite of scarcely available qualified teachers and yet has succeeded in getting recognition from the C.B.S.E. and sent its First ever batch of students to the All-India Secondary School Examination in the year 1981.

WE ARE THE ACHIEVERS

Board of Trustees, Managing Committee, Students, Teachers & Principal Shrimati K. Sehgal of the Indian National School are seen above in the group photo taken after the farewell party for the Xth grade students who gave the All-India Secondary School Examination for the first time in Ethiopia.

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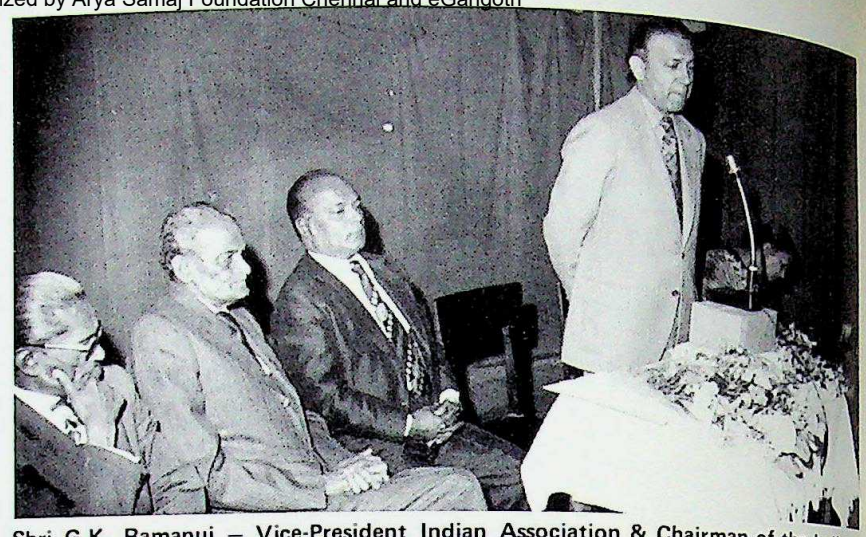
AMBASSADOR VISITS INDIAN SCHOOL

Indian Ambassador Shri Prem Kumar Budhwar, his wife Mrs. Kusum Budhwar & second Secretary Shri Lal Dingliana paid an official first visit to the Indian National School recently. On their arrival at the school, they were met by the President of the Indian Association & the school Shri Mohan Kothari. The guests were introduced to the Managing Committee and Board of Trustees after which they were taken to the various class rooms. A community reception was later held to honour & welcome the new Indian Envoy to Ethiopia, at the auditorium of the Indian School when the children performed colourful dances with welcome songs.



Shri G.K. Ramanuj — Vice-President Indian Association & Chairman of the Indian School, Shri Ramniklal J. Kothari — Prominent businessman & one of the school trustees, Shri Mohan Kothari — President Indian Association look on as Mr. Prem Kumar Budhwar speaks on the occasion of the community reception held in his honour. Mrs. Nalini M. Kothari is seen in the foreground.

KEEPING THE CULTURE ALIVE

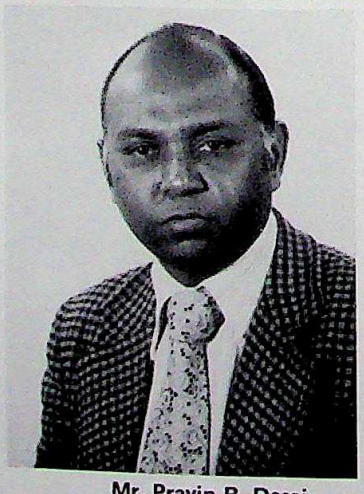
Miss Geeta Meswani in a Manipuri dance pose.

WELCOME FROM YOUNG INDIANS

Children of the Indian National School singing a welcome song.

ANCIENT TIES SEEN

An Indian businessman & our special correspondent in Ethiopia, Mr. Pravin B. Desai sometimes ago covered the history of "Lalibela" with colourful photographs in "Dharmayug", one of the chains of the Times of India publications of Bombay. His main aim to give an illustrated article covering the Ethiopian Hisotry and Culture in



Mr. Pravin B. Desai

Photographs was to show that the present relationship between India and Ethiopia are deep rooted centuries ago. In Mr. Desai's view the Indo-Ethiopian cultural similarity can be seen in the ancient monuments.

The family of Mr. Pravin Desai has lived in Agordat and Keren (North of Asmara) since 1890. His father's name is Mr. Bhagwatidas who is better known by his nick name *Berbere*. Mr. Pravin is a talented photographer and has won various prizes & diplomas from the "CUA" Club (Circolo Universitario Asmara).

The story of "Lalibela" and the story of "Maskal" in the year of 1972 covered the centre page of "Dharamyug" with the historical photographs and a short story given by Mr. Pravin.

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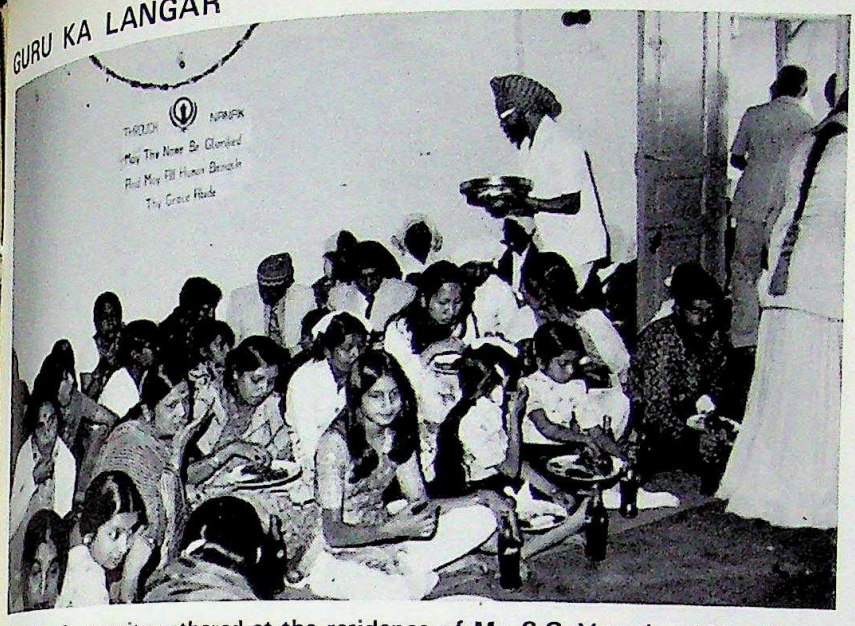
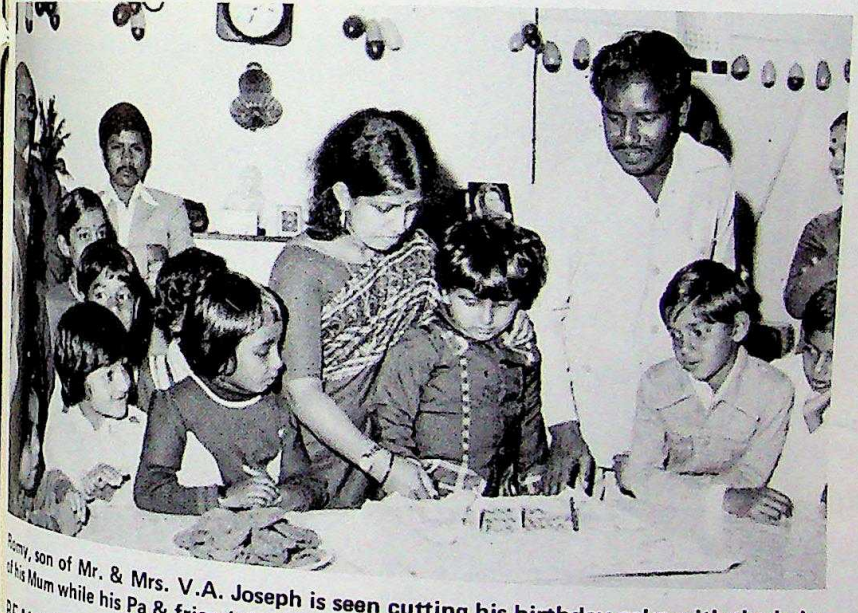
GURU KA LANGAR



The Indian Community gathered at the residence of Mr. S.G. Vansal and Mrs. Harjit Kaur Vansal during the celebration of "Guru Nanak Jayanti". There were recitals of Shabads & the four hour ceremony ended with Langar-Parsad.

THREE IS NOT FREE!



Remy, son of Mr. & Mrs. V.A. Joseph is seen cutting his birthday cake with the help of his Mum while his Pa & friends look on.

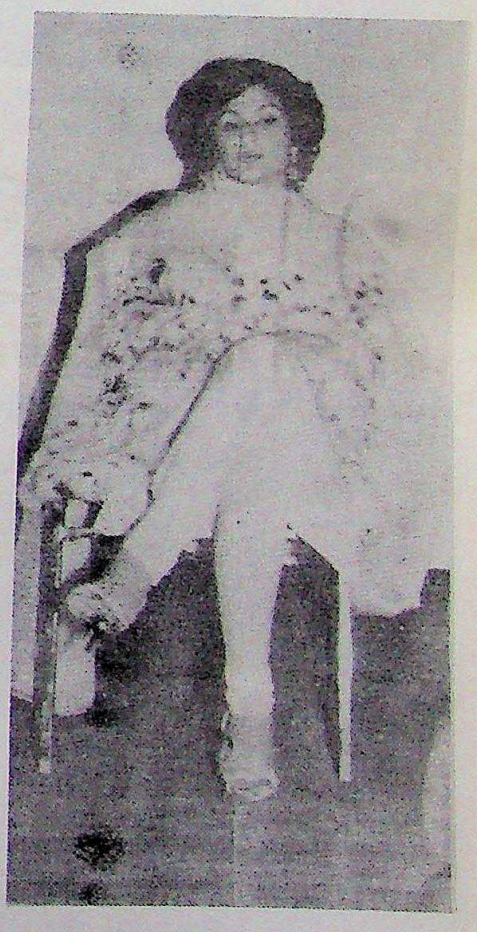
BEAUTIFUL 7 TO FLY TO INDIA

Air India, Addis Ababa, recently arranged travel of seven Ethiopian Female Delegates from UNICEF on a study tour to India. Seen in the above picture are Dr. Manzoor Ahmed, Chief of UNICEF, Indian Charge D'Affairs Mr. B.P. Singh, AI's Manager for Ethiopia/Sudan Mr. S.V. Hegde with the charming delegates at the reception held by Mr. Hegde at his residence.

CANADA

GUESS WHO?

Sharmila came with Mr. Basu Bhattacharya, doyen of the film industry in the realm of production, direction, storywriting in India. He had won many awards, including a special one for his movie "Teesri Kasam" at the Cannes Film Festival. Sharmila and Basu Bhattacharya had agreed to make stage appearance in North America at the release of their movie "Griha Pravesh". It was released at the Naaz Theatre, Toronto, and the Naz family had a hectic time to make perfect arrangements for the distinguished visitors.



Charming & beautiful in this special Nawabi attire is Sharmila Tagore, who visited Toronto recently, conquered the hearts of thousands of Indians living there & left within forty-eight hours.

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INDIAN WINS RACE CASE

The Canadian Post Office has been ordered to pay $16,628 in damages to Bhupinder (Betty) Dhillon. The woman, who comes from India, was found to be a victim of racial torment.

Bhupinder, who was dismissed from her job at the Calgary, Alberta, postal plant last year, had pleaded her case with the Public Service Staff Relations Board. The order to pay damages to her comes four months after the post office already reinstated her under a previous order from the board.

The damages awarded are intended to cover wages, shift premiums and overtime lost by Dhillon between the time of her dismissal last March and reinstatement in November.

According to the judgment of the board, the postal managers were wrong in dismissing Dhillon. The board observed that the authorities had not provided her with proper training and had tolerated "protracted, calculated, racial harassment" of her by the co-workers.

RACE COMMITTEES NAMED

The City of Winnipeg's Police Commission has formed an advisory committee on race relations. Winnipeg Mayor William Norrie has set up an advisory committee, also on race relations.

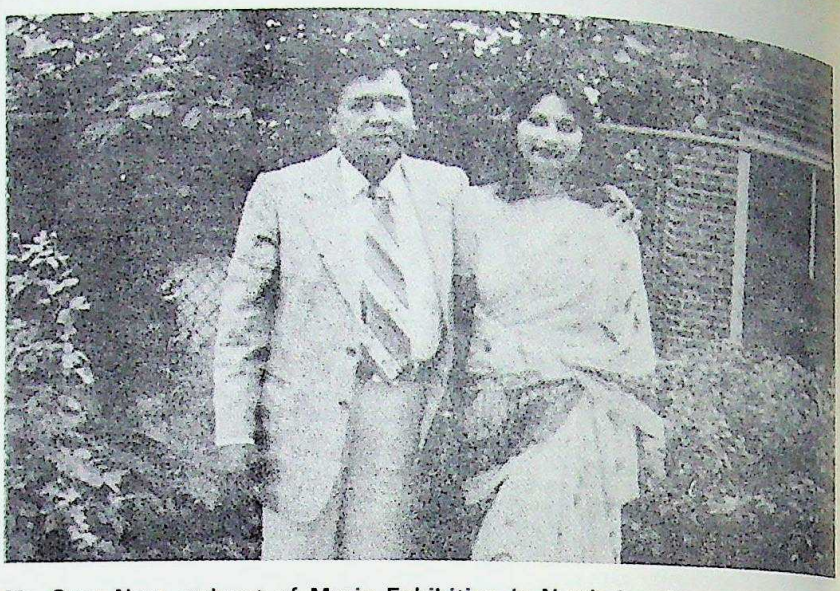
Formation of the two committees came three days after 50 Asian Indians met in the Winnipeg home of one of their number and threatened to take the law into their own hands if police remained indifferent to their concerns.

The family of Priti Pul Kaur Manhas, a nurse who came to Canada 14 years ago, said eggs, rocks and burning newspapers had been hurled at their house. The mother also complained that youths shouted "Paki go home" and threw stones when she escorted her five-year-old son to kindergarten. "Paki" is a derogatory term used for referring to Asian Indians or Pakistanis.

Kuldip Singh, one of the leaders of the Asian Indian group, praised the actions taken by police and the Mayor. He said it "shows their sincere concern." Singh said he had received many telephone calls from non-Asian Indian residents of the city offering to help out if racially motivated attacks continued.

At a recent meeting of various ethnic groups it was decided to take a united stand against racism and extend cooperation in this effort to the authorities.

NAAZ COUPLE



Mr. Gyan Naaz, stalwart of Movie Exhibition in North America, and his theatre is a centrifugal place in the Indian Bazaar around which Indian and Pakistani businesses are now flourishing. Mr. Naaz has now gone a long way on the road to success. He is a distributor of Indian Movies all across Canada and now a film producer of an expected "A" Class Movie, with top stars.

Sharmila Tagore is photographed with Nuzhat Jafry, Kiran Kher (Editor of National Indo Pak News) and a friend.

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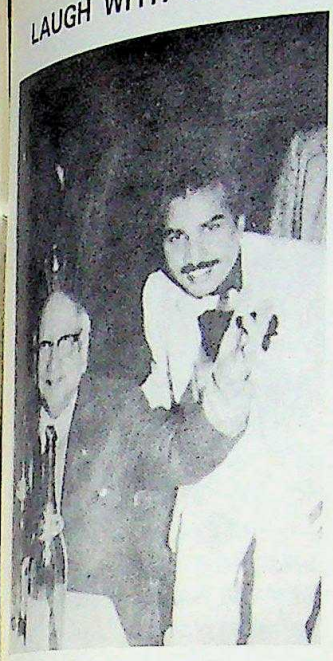
LAUGH WITH DAVID



David Abraham, well-known film star and sports commentator who now lives in Hamilton, Ontario, is reciting a couplet for Bunty Naz at the function.

SRI LANKA

SEVEN NATION CONFERENCE ON REGIONAL COOPERATION

India has called on laying a solid foundation to build regional cooperation in South Asia. The call was given by Indian Foreign Secretary Mr. R.D. Sathe, while speaking at the inaugural session of the first ever 7-nation conference on regional cooperation in South Asia. The conference was inaugurated in Colombo recently by the Foreign Minister of Sri Lanka.

Mr. Sathe suggested appointing of four technical groups to look into four broad areas of cooperation areas which are culture, infrastructure, science and technology and negotiations with developed and other countries. Seven nations represented at the conference are India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Maldives and Bhutan.

KUWAIT

TOP QAWALI SHOW

Shri Aziz Ahmad Warsi, a well-known Indian Qawali Singer visited Kuwait recently under the auspices of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations, New Delhi. Shri Warsi & his troupe gave two performances, one at the Indian Arts Circle & the other at the Engineering Projects (India) Limited' Housing site before proceeding to Saudi Arabia & United Arab Emirates.

QAWALI HAI QAWALI

Shri Aziz Ahmad Warsi (middle) and his companions thrilled the audience as they sang qawalis with their powerful voices, beckoned with tabla, harmoniam and claps.

DROWNED IN QAWALI SPIRITS

A view of the audience during qawali performance at the Indian Arts Circle. Indian Ambassador Shri Chhatwal is seen at extreme right (first row). On his right is Pakistani Ambassdor Shri Mehdi Masood.

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WEDDING

Some 1200 well-wishers, friends & relatives turned up to bless Jasvinder, son of Mr. & Mrs. Niranjan Singh Sachdev, and Satvant, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Iqbal Singh Ghulati, at the Convention Hall of the Ambassador Hotel recently. Among the V.V.I.P.s were Gen. Pramarn Adhireksan, Deputy Prime Minister & leader of the Thai Nation Party, Indian Ambassador Mr. Ashoke B. Gokhale & his wife Mrs. Surekha Gokhale & former Speaker of Indian Parliament Mr. Hukum Singh, who came all the way from New Delhi, to bless the newly weds.

DINNER FOR AMBASSADOR

The Indian Thai Chamber of Commerce recently hosted a dinner to welcome & introduce the new Indian Ambassador to Thailand, Mr. Ashoke B. Gokhale. The dinner at Mayura Room of the President Hotel was attended largely by the business executives, bankers & socialites who turned up to meet the Gokhales.

COY BRIDE – LUCKY GROOM

Mr. Niranjan Singh Sachdev, the host, bridegroom Jasvinder, bride Satvant, Mr. Hukum Singh and guest of honour Gen. Praman Adhireksan photographed at the wedding reception.

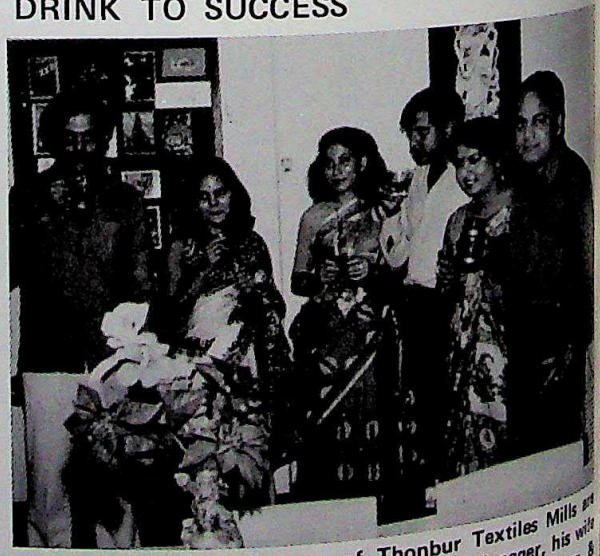
WARM WELCOME

Mr. Tarlok Singh Narang, President of the Indian Thai Chamber of Commerce, Guest of honour Mr. Ashoke B. Gokhale, Mr. Baldev Raj Sachdev, Hon. General Sec. ITCC & the assistant Hon. Sec. Mr. Kartar Singh Sethi, seen at the dinner hosted in honour of the new Indian Ambassador.

INSURANCE-MEN SMILE

Mr. U.S. Moorthy, manager New India Insurance Ltd. hosted a dinner in honour of Mr. V. Kapadia, former chairman of General Insurance Corporation of India, who was in Bangkok recently in connection with his trip to Malaysia, Singapore & Middle East to study insurance possibilities in those countries. Photo taken on the occasion shows from left Mr. V. Kapadia, Mr. S.C. Subjally, Insurance director Alfultaim Group Dubai, Mr. U.S. Moorthy & the guest of honour, Mr. Poti Chanyakamol, Director-General Insurance Division Royal Government of Thailand (back to camera).

DRINK TO SUCCESS



At the annual dinner party of Thonbur Textiles Mills are seen from right Mr. B.N. Sharma, General Manager, his wife Manjoo, Mr. & Mrs. Ashoke Sharma, Mrs. Mathur & Mr. Bhushan Quatra.

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INDIAN MINISTER MEETS THE PRESS

Mr. Vasant Sathe, who came to Mauritius to inaugurate the Mauritius Film Festival, wherein twenty-five South Indian films in Tamil, Telegu & Kannada languages were projected, met the local reporters at a Press Conference held in the office of the Minister of Education & Cultural Affairs Sir Kher Jagatsingh. Mauritian Minister of Information, Mr. Suresh Moorba and the Acting High Commissioner of India, Mr. Prem Singh were also present at the conference. The meeting of the Indian Minister with the press was longly devoted to the creation of a Mauritius News Agency. The creation of this News Agency has been advised by the Mc Bride Commission during an Information Conference in Belgrade recently, which should help Third World Countries not to depend solely on Occidental News Agencies for overseas information.

At the press conference — Mr. Vasant Sathe, Sir Kher Jagatsingh and Mr. Suresh Moorba. *— Photo: Ministry of Information & Broadcasting.*

Mr. Vasant Sathe lighting the lamp for the festival to begin.

FESTIVAL OF SOUTH INDIAN FILMS

The long awaited festival of South Indian Films was only an illusion during the days preceding the projection which ended on March 21. Empty cine houses and indifferent cinegoers are the best proofs. The important purpose of the festival was to expose the rich culture of India and the artistic and technic level of its films, as Mr. Vasant Sathe, Indian Information Minister puts it. In his speech, he said that he is one of the rare persons to defend cinema in his own country. In fact, he is one of the rare ministers to accept cinema as an industry which should be helped and financed by the government, instead of regressing with a tax of about 80%. The projection of Tamil, Telegu, Malayalam, and Kannada films in Mauritius signified a vast offensive towards the Indian Tourist, for they take advantages of pilgrimage centers, monuments, beaches, park reserves and the high

Indian Artists coming to participate in the festival.

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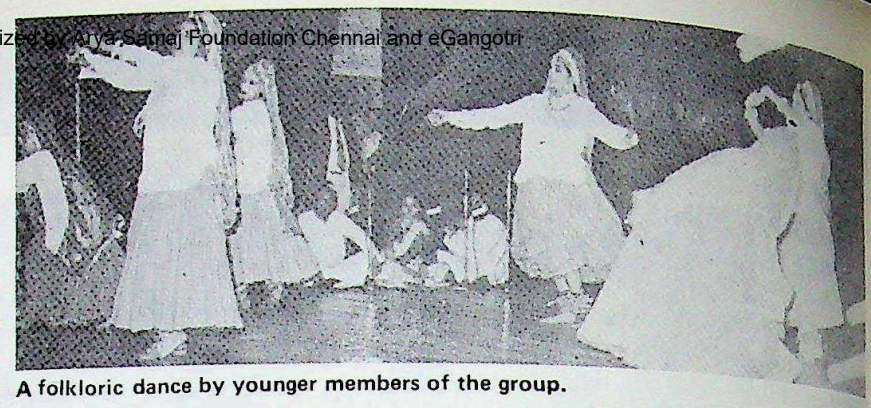
altitude stations of Kodaikaral and Ootacamound, real paradise of lakes and blue mountains. It is regrettable that the Festival has bumped against such a total indifference. The Indian Culture like all Oriental Cultures, is extremely rich, ancient and profound. No doubt, it was difficult to understand the different languages but the absence of sub-titles in English or French have contributed to this huge failure.



A folkloric dance by younger members of the group.

INDIAN CULTURAL TROUPE AT GANDHI INSTITUTE

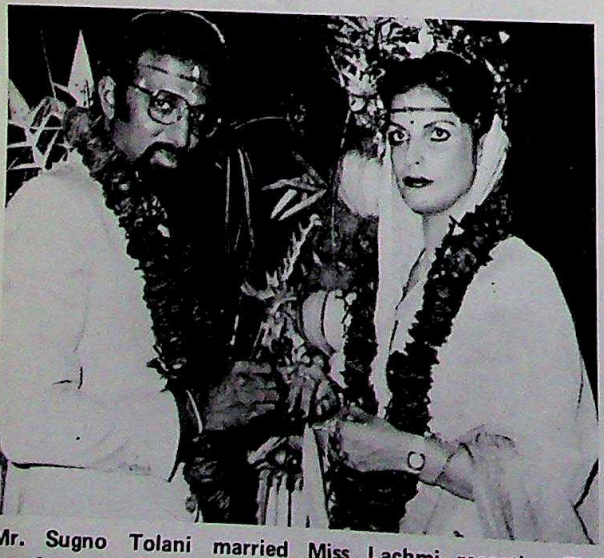
It's before a packed hall that the Indian Cultural Troupe directed by Kumari Usha Sharma, have given the first of a series of programmes which will follow during the week in different corners of the Island. It was a simple and charming performance where the beauty of music was rivalising with the gracefulness of the dancers. Usha Sharma, director of the "Chandigarh School of Kathak" has shown much of her talents and sensibility. As the Kathak is a vigorous dance, Usha Sharma has graciously added her charms and beauty to make it a perfect success. Her balletdance of "Arranya Kaand", which retraces an episode of Ramayana was particularly appreciated. For our part, we have saluted the music and its dance in its full swing. Extraordinary Voices – those of Brijosh Mathur, and Ratinka Tiwari – Vijager Singh, a devoted Tabla player and an excellent harmonium player, R.C. Kapur. All these talented people assembled to produce a captivating and enriching music.

Talented Usha Sharma.

— Naseem Ackbarally

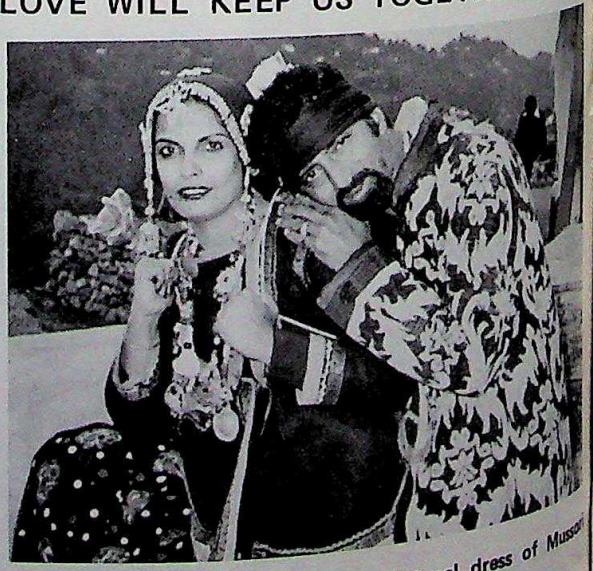
INDONESIA

LIFE BOND!



Mr. Sugno Tolani married Miss Lachmi recently. The marriage was conducted in accordance to Hindu rites by a Balinese priest.

LOVE WILL KEEP US TOGETHER



The newly weds pose in the traditional dress of Mussoo where they had gone for their honeymoon.

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SATYA, AHINSA . . .

Mr. H. Daya from Hong Kong was in Jakarta for a few days. He visited the Gandhi Memorial International School. He is seen here exchanging views with Principal V. Ram (left) on the "Message of Mahatma Gandhi" in the school office.

DOCTOR'S DOCTOR!

Dr. (Miss) Padhu Karna, who works at E. Starrow Hospital, Michigan, U.S.A. visited Jakarta recently as the guest of Dr. Narain H. Punjabi and Mr. V. Ram. Dr. Padhu Karna is a Nenonatologist and is believed to be the only Indian specialising in this field of medicine. She was born in Sindh, brought up in Udaipur and went to Canada for further studies. She is now a Canadian citizen.

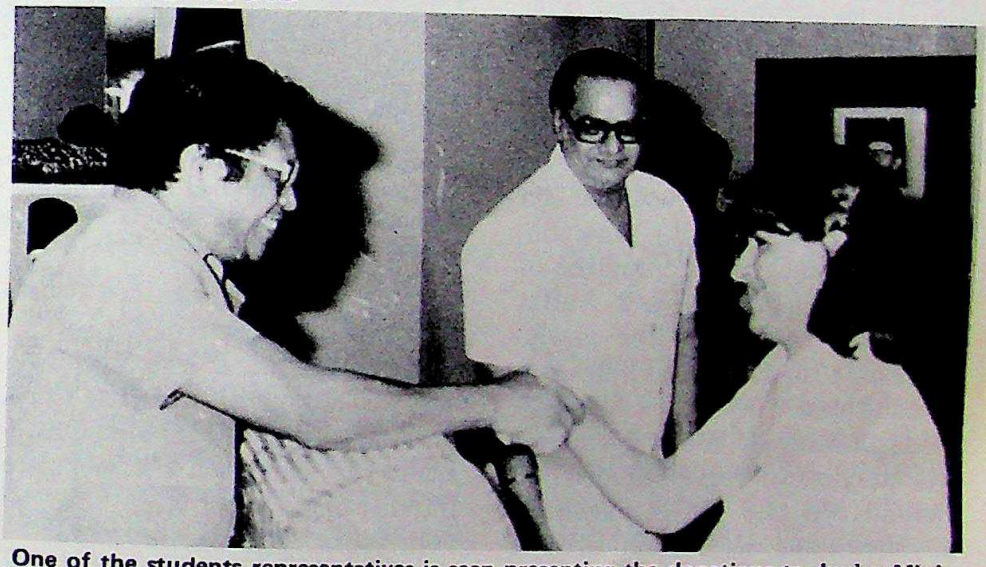
Dr. Padhu Karna is seen here with Dr. Narain H. Punjabi.

INDIAN YOUTHS DONATE

Students representatives of the Gandhi Memorial International School headed by Principal V. Ram called on the Junior Minister for Youth Affairs, Dr. Abdul Gafur, at his office, to hand over donations for the victims of natural disasters in Majalengka, West Java, in particular and in other regions of Indonesia in general. The contribution consisted of 500 blankets, 50 stoves and cash of Rp. 500.000,-.

While handing over the contributions Principal V. Ram, on behalf of the school children and their parents, expressed his concern and sympathies for the loss of property and lives, not only for the victims of landslides in Majalengka, West Java, but also for the people of other areas in Java who were besieged by floods and also the inhabitants of Irian Jaya who were hit by earthquake.

HELPING HAND



One of the students representatives is seen presenting the donations to Junior Minister for Youth Affairs, Dr. Abdul Gafur, while Principal V. Ram (centre) looks on.

SBI BANK IN JAKARTA

The State Bank of India's Jakarta office was inaugurated by the Indian Ambassador to Indonesia, Mr. S.K. Bhutani, in the presence of SBI's chairman, Mr. T.C.D. Nambiar. With the opening of the Jakarta office, SBI has increased its overseas network to 29 operations in 25 countries.

KENYA

SPREADING SWEETNESS

Kenya's President Daniel arap Moi (left) opens the Sony Sugar Factory in Western Kenya. Looking on are Mr. Mahendra N. Mehta (in dark glasses) Mr. Mwai Kibaki, the Vice-President of Kenya, Mr. G. M'Mbijjewe, the Agriculture Minister and Mr. N. Biwott, Minister of State.

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Our young correspondent, Miss Asha Parsram, gives following account of the social happenings of Indian-Singaporeans . . . marriages, newborns, festivals . . . . .

WEDDING BELLS ARE RINGING

Ashok s/o late Mr. & Mrs. Mulchand C. Ramchandani & brother of Mr. & Mrs. Nandkumar Ramchandani of Ramanico Textiles, nephew of Mr. & Mrs. Atumal C. Ramchandani, to Vimla d/o Mr. & Mrs. Assandas T. Lakhiani of T. Hiranand, Ahmedabad on 29th December at Taj Intercontinental Bombay. A committee of hosts held cocktails and buffet dinner in honour of the newly-weds on 13th January at Singapore Hilton Hotel.

Jagdish s/o Mr. & Mrs. Michumal M. Moryani of Jagvir Agencies to Mohini d/o late Mr. Kishinchand & Mrs. Rajni K. Advani of The Favourite Shop, on the 16th of January at the Sri Guru Nanak Satsang Sabha. A cocktail & buffet dinner was given by Mrs. Rajni K. Advani to meet the newly weds at Sindhu House.

Nimu d/o Mr. & Mrs. Shewaram T. Mohinani of Movitax & Movigraph Systems Pte. Ltd., to Mohan s/o Mrs. Mohini & late Mr. Motiram D. Raghani of Ramayana, Tanjong, on the 26th January.

Naina d/o Mr. & Mrs. Khemchand J. Chugani of Rani Store, to Ram s/o Mrs. Mohini & late Mr. Motiram Raghani of Ramayana, on the 26th January at the Sri Guru Nanak Satsang Sabha.

Ramesh s/o Mrs. Rukmani & late Mr. Sobhrajmal G. Gidwani of Lal's Pte. Ltd., to Rani d/o Mrs. Dellabai & late Mr. Manghanmal L. Mulani of Leela Silk Store, on 6th February at Sri Nanak Satsang Sabha.

Kanta d/o Mr. & Mrs. Lachmandas S. Chugani of Rubytex Corp. to Ashok s/o Mr. & Mrs. Phatechand T. Fabiani of Checkmate International, Hong Kong, on the 16th February at Sindhu House.

Sunita d/o Mrs. Gangabai & late Mr. Premchand Mahtani, to Manohar s/o Kishinchand T. Lalwani of Lovely Silk Stores Bombay on the 18th February at Sindhu House.

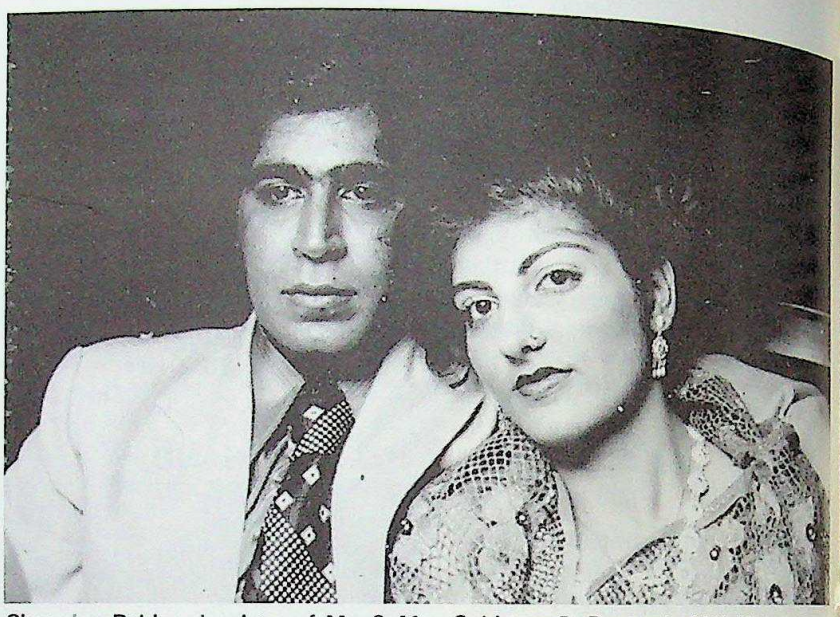
Nirmala d/o Mr. & Mrs. Tulsidas Kishnani of Wen Int., to Murli s/o Mrs. Leelawanti & late Mr. Shewakram of Spain on 11th March at Sri Guru Nanak Satsang Sabha. A buffet dinner was held by Mr. & Mrs. Amardas Kishnani to meet the newly weds on the 12th March at Oberoi Imperial Hotel.

Primla d/o late Mr. & Mrs. Udharam H. Babani & niece of Mr. & Mrs. Naraindas H. Babani of J. Udharam to Shewak s/o late Mr. & Mrs. Ramchand J. Wadhwani and nephew of Mr. & Mrs. Rijhumal L. Wadhwani of Ramson, Cairo, on 26th March at Kagazwalla Hall, Poona.

Bhagwan s/o Mr. & Mrs. Gobindram T. Mahtani of Tharoomal Detaram, to Duru d/o Mr. & Mrs. Gangaram Nihalchand Daryanani on 31st March at Sri Guru Nanak Sat Sangh Sabha.

Neelam d/o Mr. & Mrs. Doulatram T. Dadlani of Modern Electronics Pte. Ltd., to Rajkamal s/o Mr. & Mrs. Issarsingh R. Vaswani, Bombay on the 12th April at Sri Guru Nanak Satsang Sabha. To meet the newly-weds Mr. & Mrs. Doulatram T. Dadlani held a buffet dinner on the 14th April at the Oberoi Imperial Hotel.

TOGETHER-FOREVER



Charming Rekha, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Sukhram P. Daswani of M/s Kaka's, Singapore, was recently tied in matrimony with Arjan, son of Mrs. Satibai & late Mr. Assandas Daswani of Jakarta. The marriage ceremony took place at the Jakarta Gurudwara.

WEDDED BLISS NEWBORNS

A son, Resham born to Mr. & Mrs. Jhamandas M. Ganglani of J. Mohan's Int. after a long interval of 18 years. To celebrate the birth of their son, they held cocktails & buffet dinner on the 20th February at Oberoi Imperial Hotel

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lowed by an Assa-Di-War kirtan on the 22nd February at the Sindhu Mandir.

A daughter, Madhu born to Priya & Parkash of Khubsons Pte. Ltd. & grand-daughter to Mr. & Mrs. Khubchand B. Peswani on the 23rd January. To celebrate the birth, Mrs. Khubchand Peswani held a lunch party on the 20th February at the Sindhu House.

A daughter, Pooja born to Jyoti & Prem of Geetex Corp., Hong-Kong, & grand-daughter to Mr. & Mrs. Parsram C. Dadlani of C. Parsram & Co., Singapore, in February. To celebrate the birth of their grand-daughter, Mrs. Parsram Dadlani held a lunch party on 24th March at her residence.

A son, born to Vanita & Ashok of T. Pishu & grandson to Mr. & Mrs. Tulsidas L. Wadhwani on 14th March. The naming ceremony was held at the Sindhu Mandir.

SACRED THREAD CEREMONY

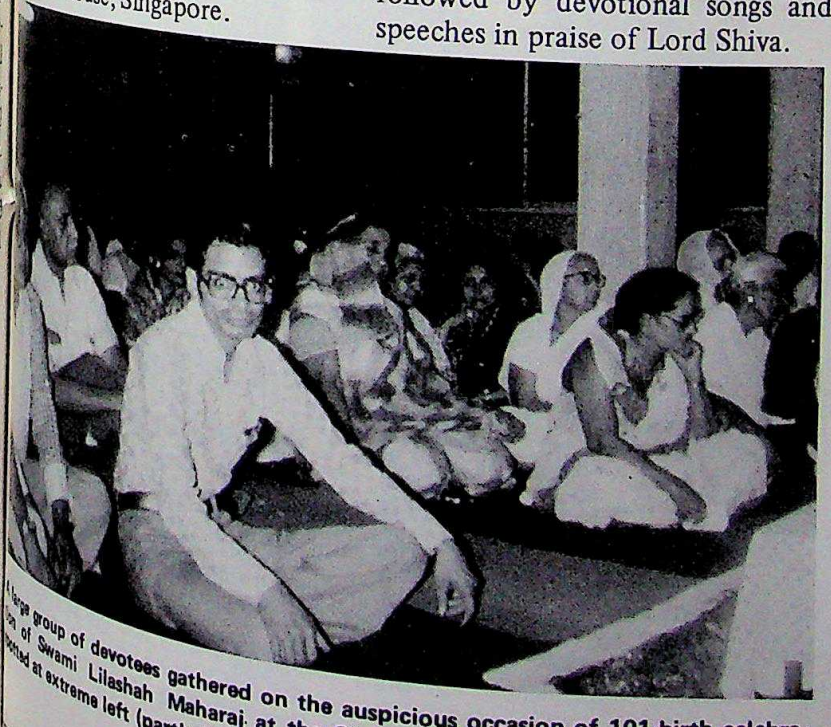
Mr. & Mrs. Sunder B. Dadlani of M/s. Modern Electronics Pte Ltd Singapore held a Sacred Thread Ceremony (Janya) of his sons Chandur, Prakash, and Rajesh on the 5th April at the Prayer Hall of Sindhu House, Singapore.

VISIT OF SWAMI AUGUSTMUNI

Swami Augustmuni is a well-known saint from Kashmir, India. He is on his first visit to Singapore and has been giving religious discourses on general topics like 'Life after Death' and many other interesting teachings, at the Sindhi Mandir during Sundays Morning Satsangs since early this year. He had also given a discourse on Meditation with a view to achieving peace of mind and relaxation of body, at the residence of Mr. C.V. Parsram, 45, St. Patricks Road, Singapore from 13th to 20th February 81. Havan was performed on the 13th February 81.

SHIVRATRI

This festival was very joyously celebrated with great devotion on 4th March at the Prayer Hall of Sindhu House. The reading of the Akhand Path of Shiv Puran started on Monday evening and the Bhog ceremony was held on the pious day of Shivrathri. On conclusion, a havan ceremony was performed followed by devotional songs and speeches in praise of Lord Shiva.



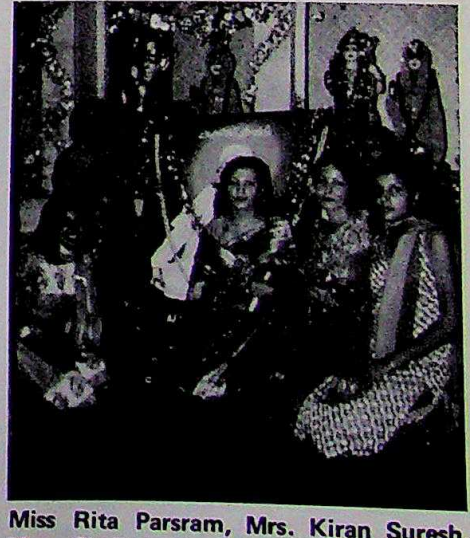
A large group of devotees gathered on the auspicious occasion of 101-birth celebration of Swami Lilashah Maharaj at the Sindhi Mandir. Mr. C.V. Parsram can be seen at extreme left (partly hidden).

HOLI FESTIVAL

Holi is one of the most important and colourful festival celebrated amongst all Hindus in India and abroad. The special significance of Holi is Ras Leela in the life of Lord Krishna and his Gopis, and is celebrated fervently in Vrindavan, India. In Singapore, Holi was celebrated at the Prayer Hall of Sindhu House on the 20th March with an excellent attendance of some 650 members and children. The entire audience were captivated by the very beautiful performance of the Sindhi School children on a drama known as "Prahlad" and also other religious songs and dances. There were also two comedy skits performed by the Young Sindhi's Committee. Preeti Bhojan was served after the programme.

CHETI CHAND CELEBRATION

Cheti Chand is celebrated annually with great joy and happiness. This year this auspicious day was celebrated on the 6th April joyously being the eve of our Sindhi New Year. The ceremony of Puj Lal Sahib Bahrano was held with great devotion. Preeti Bhojan was served after the ceremony by the devotees of Puj Lal Sahib.



Miss Rita Parsram, Mrs. Kiran Suresh, Mrs. Shalini Ramesh alongwith other friends seek blessings from Swami Lilashah.

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OBITUARY
G.S. MUTHUKRISHNAN

Mr. Muthukrishnan

We regret to announce the sad demise of Mr. G.S. Muthukrishnan, our Singapore/Malaysia correspondent after a brief illness. Mr. Muthukrishnan was associated with THE INDIAN for over ten years and filed in his story regularly. He was a journalist of eminence & with committment. He served as editor of a daily newspaper in Malaysia, worked for the Singapore Indian Chamber of Commerce & wrote regularly for different local periodicals. He will be missed by a wide circle of friends, admirers and collegues. We pray for the peace of his soul.

TAMIL DAILY

A new Tamil daily "Thinamani," published by the owners of the banned Tamil "Malar," has come out in Kuala Lumpur.

The eight page paper is the third Tamil daily catering to about 700,000 Tamil-speaking people in Malaysia.

RAMNOAMI

Ramnoami (the birth of Sri Ramchandra) was celebrated at the Prayer Hall of Sindhu House on the 12th April in conjunction with the Assa Di Var kirtan held every Sunday. Devotional bhajans were sung by the well-known Bombay T.V. Artiste Mrs. Kajal Bannerjee. A religious discourse on the Ramayan was given by Her Holiness Swami Atmananda Saraswati. Guru Ka Langar was served after the auspicious occasion.

INDIAN EXECUTED

A 30-year-old Indian from Uttar Pradesh who was under death sentence for drug trafficking, was hanged in Singapore recently.

Mr. Azmi Anis Ahmad of Azamagarh, was the first Indian citizen to go to the gallows under Singapore's tough antidrug law which provides mandatory death sentance for trafficking more than 15 grammes of heroin. So far, nine persons have been hanged under the law.

SINDHI MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION

Mr. T. Ramchand has been elected as President on the Management Committee 1981-82 of the Sindhi Merchants Association. Others on the committee are Mr. Durgadas Aidasani: Vice-President, Mr. G. Bhojraj: Hon. Secretary, Mr. Aju Primalani: Jt. Hon. Secretary Mr. Vashi Harjani: Hon. Treasurer, Mr. Arjandas Daswani: Incharge of Sindhi Mandir & Sindhi Classes, Mr. Bhagwan Sadhwani: Incharge of Sindhu House, Mr. Mohandas Gopwani & Mr. V.N. Bhatia are Dy. Incharge of Sindhi Mandir, Mr. Lal Gidwani: Incharge of Youth Group & Incharge of Social and Recreation, Mr. Sunder Samtani: Dy. Incharge of Social & Recreation.

JAPAN

7 DAYS TO THE MYSTIC LAND

Guest speaker — novelist Mrs. Aki Goto — drawing the "7 day trip to India" first prize at a show arranged by Indian Tourist Office in connection with their "Quiz India". Mrs. V. Pandhi, Regional Director-Japan & Far East, Mr. J.C. Sharma, Asstt. Director and Miss N. Suenaga are seen with Mrs. Goto.

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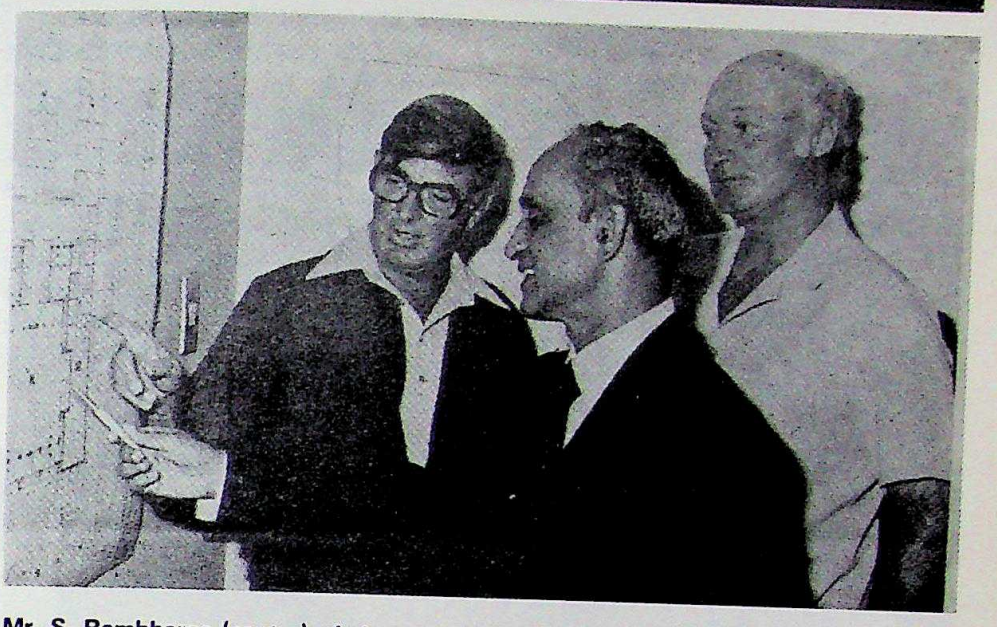
$3,000,000 US. HOME GETS GO AHEAD

Construction has started on the Aryan Benevolent Home's R2 million home for the aged which is being built on the property adjoining the Children's Home built by the same organisation in 1979.

The home for the aged will have 96 beds for geriatric care, and 140 for frail aged people. There will also be a block of 12 rooms for aged couples.

"An important feature of the scheme will be the facilities for a day care service centre which will cater for the aged living in the community. A laundrette, hairdressing rooms, bathrooms, provision for games and occupational activities are some of the services envisaged" said Mr. S. Rambharos, chairman of the Aryan Benevolent Home Council.

The children's home in Chatsworth was completed in June 1979 at a cost of R536,000 with the assistance of the National Housing Commission. It can register up to 96 children in need of care.



Mr. S. Rambharos (centre), chairman of Aryan Benevolent Home Council, Mr. E.C.P. Staniland (left) architect and Mr. F.A. Bax of Bax Bros. Construction (Pty) Ltd discuss the building plan just after the contract for the R 2,357,000 project was signed for a new home for the aged.

A Gujarati Widower Early Fifty — tall — attractive — pleasing personality — businessman in S. Africa — seeks charming — educated or professional woman with pleasant nature — homely (no issues) and good family back ground (about 30-36) for Marriage — simple ceremony and stay abroad and after 3 years to settle in India permanently. Send photo (returnable). Write Box 55 c/o The Indian.

VEDA NIKETAN STUDY GROUPS

'Study' groups inaugurated by the Veda Niketan meet regularly for holding talks, panel discussions and using other media to stimulate interest for the study of Hindu scriptures and Hinduism.

There is no membership fee. The Veda Niketan is a standing committee of the Arya Pratinidhi Sabha of South Africa and was set up to propagate and disseminate Vaidic (Vedic) teachings.

A fair amount of literature in the form of tracts, pamphlets, and prayer cards have been printed and distributed over the years by the Niketan under the chairmanship and guidance of Pt. Nardev Vedalankar.

Text books have been printed for Hindu religious examinations and many students have been assisted in the Republic and overseas, to write the examinations which are held twice a year.

DEBS BALL

The Lakehaven Ex-Students Society (LESS), held their annual debs ball at the Durban City Hall on 9th May. The guest of honour was Professor Devi Bhagwan. Proceeds swelled the society's bursary fund which now stands at over US$5000. Some of the debutantes are pictured above.

Shevani Lockwath — Vanilla Naidoo — Shamla Naidoo

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SABHA SEEKS WIDER FIELDS

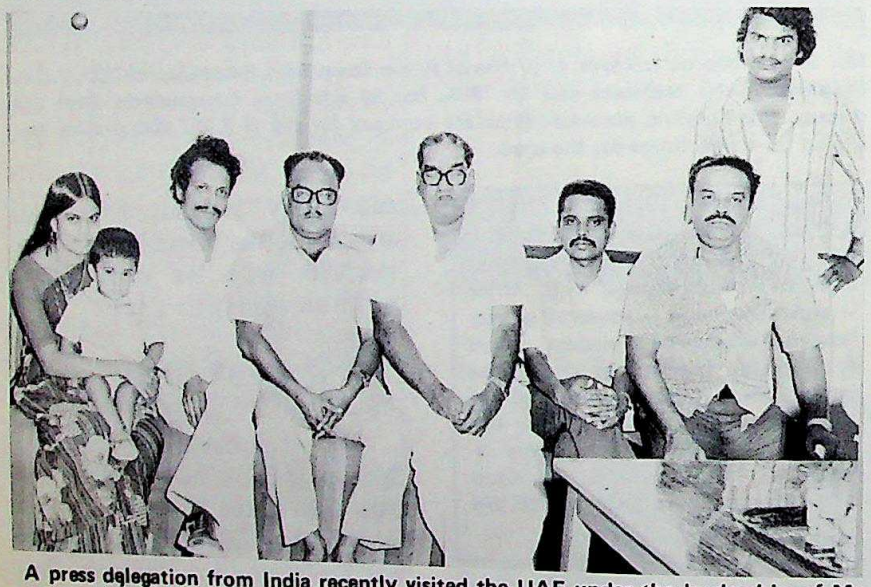
The S.A. Hindu Maha Sabha is to embark on a drive to get Hindu organisations in other provinces to affiliate, according to Mr. P.D. Persad, the sabha's new general secretary.

Mr. Persad said that at present the sabha derived its membership almost solely from Natal, and it was now keen to spread its influence to other provinces.

Seminars, lectures and conferences were also being planned by the sabha which had a new executive elected at its biennial general meeting earlier this month.

Mr. P. Paruman, vice-president of the S.A. Tamil Federation, and an ex-Mayor of Isipingo was elected president, with Mr. Persad and Mr. M. Govender joint secretaries and Mr. Dan Naidoo and Mr. P. Pillay joint treasurers. Mr. Persad is chairman of the South Coast branch of the Hindi Shiksha Sangh and vice-president of the Auvak Arya Samaj in Clairwood.

UNITED ARAB EMERITES



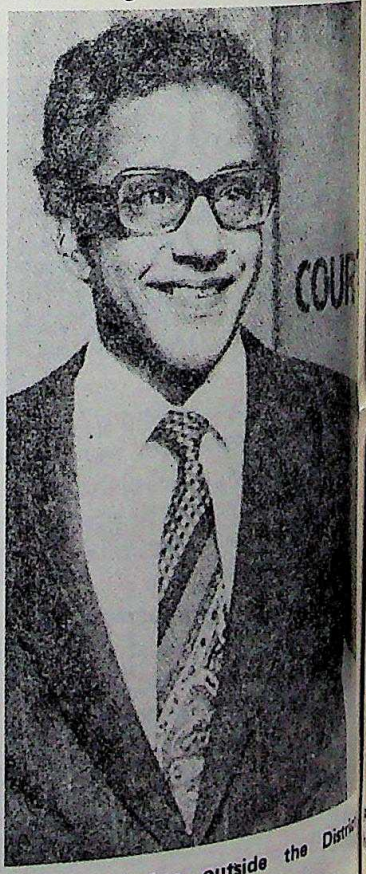
A press delegation from India recently visited the UAE under the leadership of Mr. S.T. Reddiar, managing editor of the Kerala Sabdam Group.

India's noted Dance Guru Gopalkrishnan (3rd from right), is seen with friends in Dubai during his recent visit.

NEW ZEALAND

NEW ZEALAND JUDGE

An Indian-born lawyer has been named a district court judge in New Zealand, the first person of Asian origin to be appointed to the bench. Mr. Avinash Deobhakta, 44, will be sitting in Auckland and will preside over jury trials. Short, slight, Avianash Deobhakta arrived in New Zealand from Uganda nearly eight years ago with his wife and two young children. In Kampala, they left behind their worldly possessions, family and friends. In more than six years in practice in Auckland, Mr. Deobhakta had developed a reputation as a meticulous and articulate tradesman in law. It is his second appointment to the Bench. In 1969, 10 years after graduating in law in London, he was appointed a senior Ugandan magistrate.



Mr. Deobhakta outside the District Court in Auckland.

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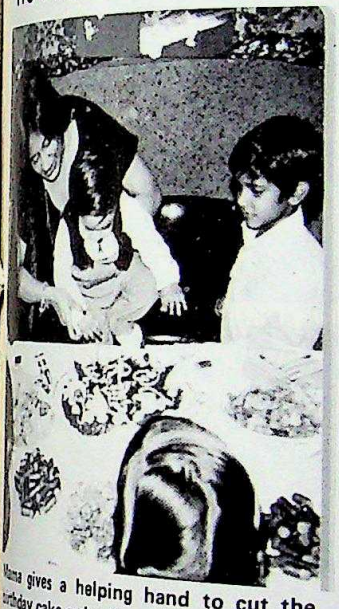
BIRTHDAY PARTY FOR AMIT

Mr. & Mrs. Gordhan Bulchand Sohnani celebrated their son Amit's first birthday which falls on Father's day – 19th March.

ITS FUN TO GROW



Mama gives a helping hand to cut the birthday cake as brother Ajay looks on.

LOOK AT ME

Proud father Gordhan helps Amit with a share of the birthday-cake.

WE LOVE YOU AMIT

Birthday boy is photographed with the happy children who made Amit's Special Day as joyous as could be.

BLESSED ONCE AGAIN WITH 'LAXMI'

Mr. & Mrs. Manu H. Melwani proudly hold their second daughter Priti while sister Dimple, Grandma Mrs. Sita & Mr. & Mrs. Kalachand Harjani happily join-in.

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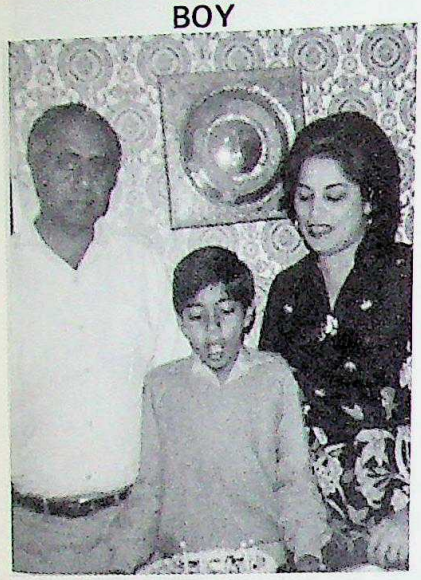
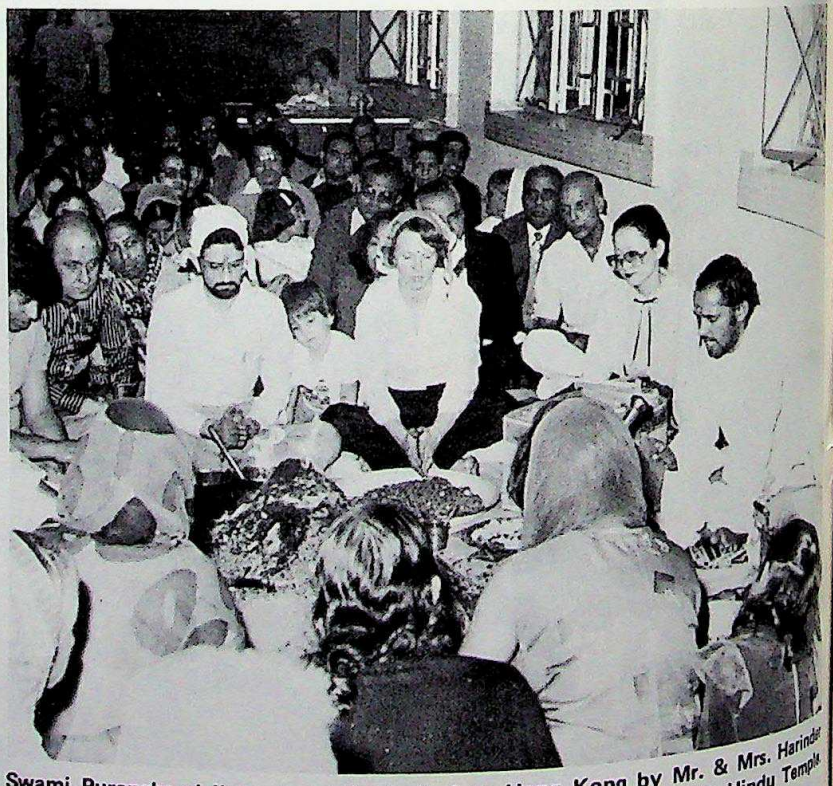
BLOW THE CANDLE BOY



Mr. & Mrs. U.K. Samtani stand by as their son Rajesh blows candles on his eighth birthday.

HONG KONG

The Indian Chamber of Commerce recently hosted a dinner in honour of Mr. William Doward, Director of Trade Industry & Customs, Hongkong. The guest of honour is seen second from right. Others in the picture are from left – Mr. H.N. Harilela, Mrs. Doward, Chairman of ICC Mr. K. Sital, Mrs. H.N. Harilela and Mrs. K. Sital.



Swami Puranchand ji was recently invited to Hong Kong by Mr. & Mrs. Harinder Bhalla. The couple had arranged for 'Luxmi Chandan Puja' at the Hindu Temple. This 'puja' is performed with significance to bring 'water'.

Swami ji made headlines in the local press when he did some predictions about Hong Kong's future.

Mr. & Mrs. H. Bhalla are seen in the centre of the picture as they perform 'puja', while their son looks on.

LIBYA

INDIA WINS LIBYAN CONTRACTS

Vijaya Tanks and Vessels Private Limited have received two letter of intent, one for construction of storage petroleum depot at Sebha, worth Libyan dollars 9.8 million and another for construction of 5000 cubic meter tank and pipeline worth half a million Libyan dollars.

International Airports Authority of India has received a letter of intent for extension of Brak airport worth Libyan dollars 13 million.

D D Construction Company Private Limited signed a contract for construction of roads in Azizia for a value of Rs. 420 million.

Telecommunication India limited has signed a contract for changing the cables of Tripoli Telephone exchange for a value of US$33,123.

Messrs. Atwal and Company has signed a contract for construction of a big mosque in Nalut area, worth Libyan dollar 6 million.

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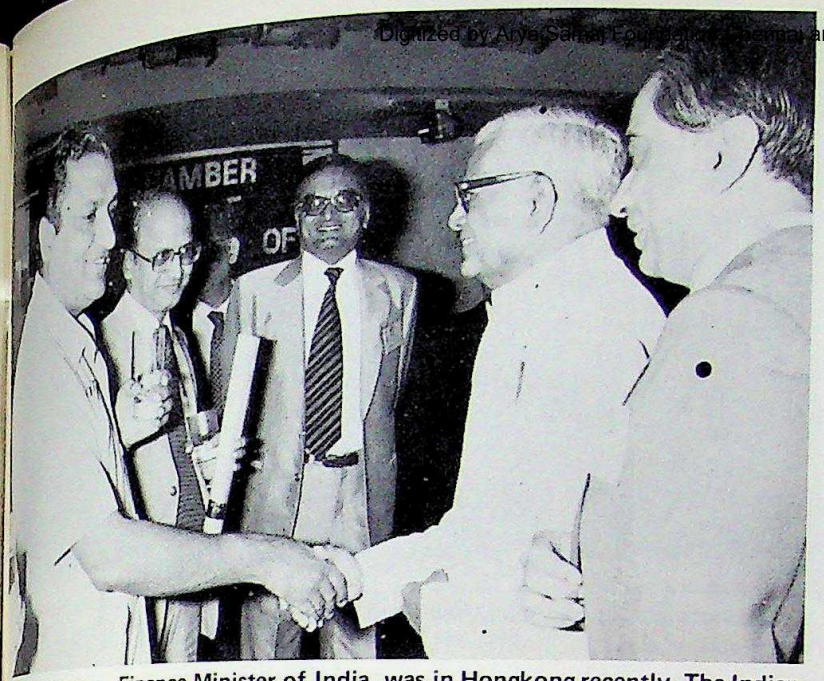
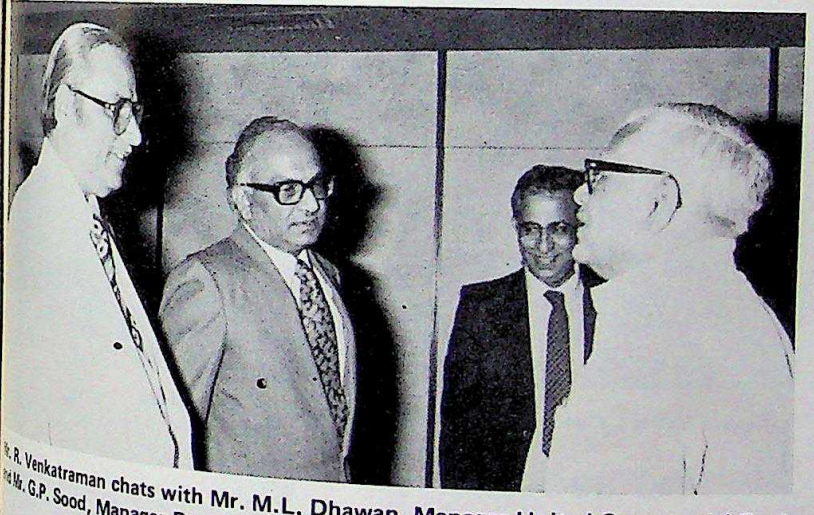


Mr. R. Venkatraman, Finance Minister of India, was in Hongkong recently. The Indian Chamber of Commerce gave a lunch reception in his honour. The Chairman of ICC, Mr. K. Sital welcomed the minister. Photographed on the occasion are from left – Mr. Nihal Chulani, Mr. P.S. Ragupatti of UCB, Mr. Bhopatkar, Mr. Venkatraman and Mr. C.V. Ranganathan, India's Commissioner in Hongkong.

ITH BANKERS



Mr. R. Venkatraman chats with Mr. M.L. Dhawan, Manager United Commercial Bank and Mr. G.P. Sood, Manager Bank of India.

AIR INDIA'S NEW MANAGER

Recently arrived in the Colony to take over as Air India's Manager for Hong Kong, Macau, Philippines and Japan, is Mr. L. Khosla.

A graduate of the Punjab University with an MA degree in History, Mr. Khosla has been with the airline for twenty years, and having worked in many different capacities brings to his post a wealth of experience and expertise. This is his second posting abroad, his first having been as Manager Iran from

Mr. L. Khosla

1973-77. He spent several years at the airport, and has served as Cargo Sales Manager India, Asst. Regional Director India, Executive Asst. to the Chairman and, prior to taking up his present appointment, was the airline's Asst. Regional Manager On Special Duty, based in Delhi.

Married with two daughters, Mr. Khosla's hobbies are reading, walking and cricket.

DENMARK

HOUSEWARE DISPLAY

Under the broad catagory of Houseware, a delegation of nine major traders and manufacturers from Hongkong visited Copenhagen recently. It was their second stop in Europe. The delegation first took part in the Cologne Houseware Fair and after Copenhagen Gothenburg was their last stop. These exhibitions were sponsored by the Hongkong Trade Development Council. The items at display were stainless steel kitchen utensils, electrical appliances, cutlery & decorative articles. Among these exhibitors, M/s Abdoolally Ebrahim & Co. HK Ltd. was the only Indian Company. It was headed by its directors, Mr. Abdulhusein Abdeally Ebrahim and Mr. Ozer Eben Ebrahim.

DENMARK GETS A GURUDWARA

All the Sikhs in Denamrk by donating have collected a sum of 380.000 DKr in order to establish a Gurudwara. A place has already been purchased. The permission to run the Gurudwara is being sought from the local municipality. Till now the Sikh Community is gathering at a rented place every Saturday.

BABY BORN

Mr. Madan Lal, attache to the Indian Embassy in Copenhagen and Mrs. M. Lal were recently blessed with another baby boy.

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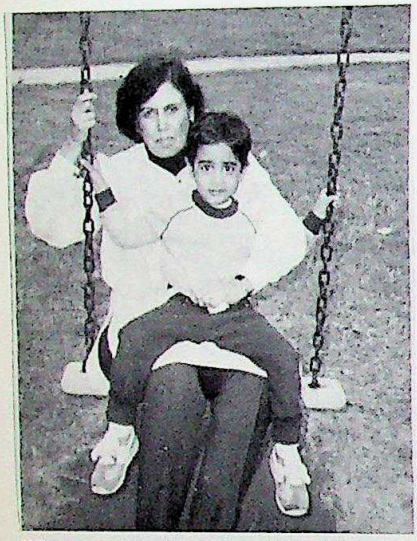
BRADRI DOES IT ALL

The very popular 'Sunday Group' of Taipei recently spent overnight at the Macauley beach which is about 75 km from Taipei.

JHULA-JHULANA



Who could enjoy more than Ginny — sitting in his grandmother's lap & taking swings.

RANGEEN SHAM

Bajaj Musical Party of Bombay recently entertained Indians of Taipei with enchanting music, dance & hilarious acts. Their programme at FASD Club was sponsered by Indian Association of Taipei. Mr. Akhtar moved the heart of audience with his ghazals & hit film songs. Madam Zarina, although a Parsee, sang sindhi songs beautifully and with perfect sindhi accent. Mr. Ramesh Rajpal was master of his own in Tits Bits. Master Chander and Miss Monica take equal credit for their part in this marvellous entertainment. This 'Rangeem Sgam' was so popular that another performance took place at IAT Club. This was the second musical programme arranged by Indian Association of Taipei, the first being 'Bhagwanti Navani Nite'.

IN THE COOL-COOL SEA

Swimming at the Macauley beach are Mr. Vashi Lalchandani, carrying Master Anand Mirchandani on his shoulders, Mr. Dilip Bhavnani with Master Ginny & Mr. Kishin Vassanani.

JOIN-US

Mrs. Pooja Vashi Lalchandani seems to be enjoying most of all.

TEMPTING BBQ

Members of 'Bradri' giving hand at Bar-Be-Que — from left, Kishin Vassanani, Dilip Bhavnani, Sheelu Vassanani, Master Anand & his sister Ritu, Ratna Mirchandani, Ramchandra & Vashi Lalchandani.

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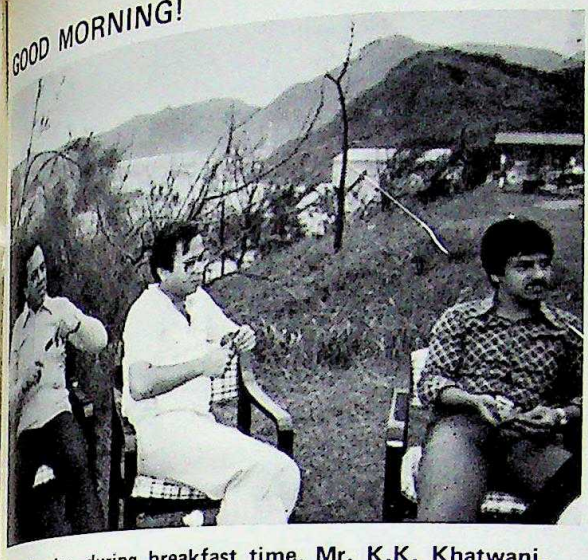
GOOD MORNING!



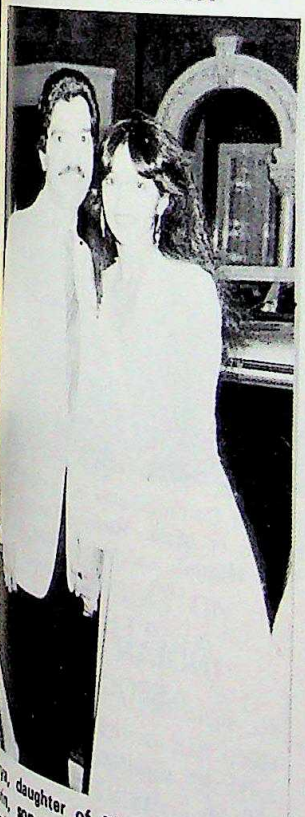
Following day, during breakfast time, Mr. K.K. Khatwani, Mr. Vashi Lalchandani & Mrs. Raj making plans for the day.

CHARON TARF GOPIYAN

Surrounded by the ladies of 'Bradri' is Vashi Lalchandani as he holds beer bottle containing milk.

UNITED KINGDOM

HOLD TIGHT — HOLD FOREVER



...ya, daughter of Mr. D.N. Lall and ...in, son of Mr. S. Narayan, were married at the Caribbean Hindu Centre ...all recently. Several hundred guests witnessed the traditional Hindu ceremony which was conducted by Pt. ...ari. The young couple changed to ...pla clothes and are seen leaving the hall happily.

MARGARET-CHANANA TETE-A-TETE

India's Minister for Industry, Dr. Charanjit Chanana, who called on the British Prime Minister, Mrs. Margaret Thatcher, recently, is seen with her.

"MUSIC, MEDICINE & SOCIAL WORK"

It is unusual to come across a couple who are not only trained and highly accomplished musicians but are also persuing demanding, professional careers. Tridib and Reba Bhaduri are such an example. Tridib is a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons and currently practising as a G.P. and a Senior Hospital Practitioner at Withington Hospital. Reba has an M.A. from Manchester University and her job is District Teacher/Supervisor of

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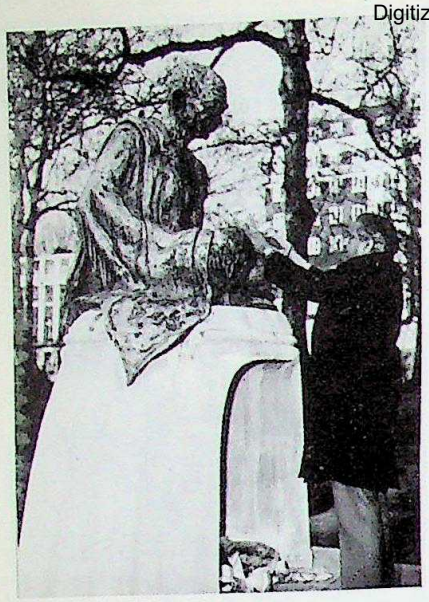
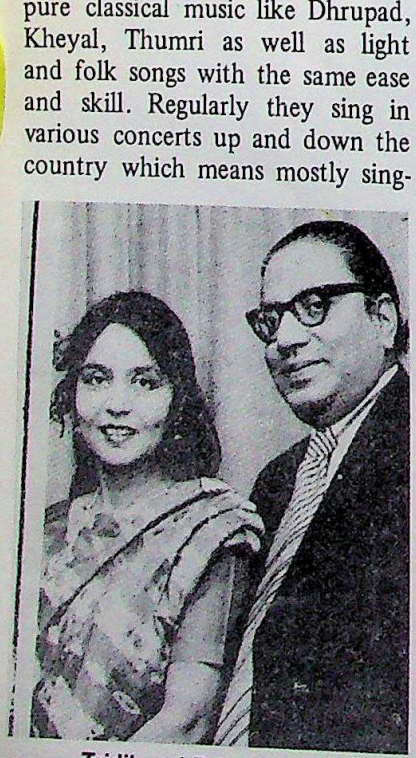


Dr. Seyid Muhammad, high Commissioner for India seen making his floral tribute to Mahatma Gandhi at Tavistock Square. The arrangements were made by India League in London.

Indian High Commissioner, local Mayor, diplomats, businessmen and members of various organisations including three buddhist monks from Japanese Peace Pagoda in U.K., gathered at statue of Gandhiji to pay their floral and verbal tributes to the Mahatma. All agreed that non-violence is the need of the whole world.

Social Work in Manchester South District Hospitals (teaching). She is also currently writing a Ph.D. on Hindu Philosophy and its implications for social work models in the West. Both of them are also appointed by the Manchester Education Committee to teach (part-time) Indian vocal music. Both Tridib and Reba can sing pure classical music like Dhrupad, Kheyal, Thumri as well as light and folk songs with the same ease and skill. Regularly they sing in various concerts up and down the country which means mostly singing Ghazals and Thumris. Most of the time they compose their music for Ghazals. Recently they released an L.P. which includes Ghazals and traditional songs.

The couple are committed to serve the community through music, medicine and social work — each has a common element of being an art of possibility. Tridib and Reba believe that there is an intimate relationship between the creative art and life.



Tridib and Reba Bhaduri

At a reception at the residence of the Indian High Commissioner in London, Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher is seen talking to Mr. H. Malik, Regional Director, Air India, Mrs. M. Prasad, Mr. B. Gathani, of 'The Hindu', and Mr. D. Basu, General Manager, State Bank of India, London.

INDIAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

At its Annual General Meeting held on 5 April, the Indian Medical Association (G.B.) elected the following office-bearers:

Mr. H.K. Basu (President), Dr C.L. Sajjanhar (Vice-President), Dr S. Saxena (Hon. Secretary), Dr R.J. Pandya (Assistant Secretary) and Dr A. Kumar (Hon. Treasurer).

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UNITED STATES

CENTER PLANNED

Member of the Indian community in Charlotte, North Carolina, recently met to finalise plans for the establishment of a Hindu Center in the city, a press release said. Kaushik Patel, Chief Coordinator, K. Chopra and Mahesh Shukla, Joint Coordinators, were nominated to an Ad Hoc Committee formed on the occasion.

SIKHS PLAN DIRECTORY

The Sikh Council of North America will soon compile and publish a directory of Sikhs and Sikh institutions in North America, a press release from the group's Richmond Hill, New York, office said.

The first edition of the directory is scheduled to be printed by May 31, prior to the Annual Convention of the Sikh Council of North America in Washington, D.C., May 23 through 25.

Information may be sent to Dr. S. Sandhu, Sikh Council of North America, 95-30 118th Street, Richmond Hill, New York 11590.

INDIAN EXHIBITION IN PHILADELPHIA

The largest ever exhibition of Indian arts and culture has been organised in Philadelphia by the Indo-US sub commission on education and culture, which had its fourth meeting there.

While the Indian co-chairman, G. Parthasarthy, emphasised the importance of cultural exchanges, an exuberant American observer remarked: "It is no exhibition: it is a vital cultural invasion."

While the Indian ambassador. Mr. K.R. Narayanan, exchanged pleasantries with the mayor at the Town Hall, scores of school children answered questions on Indian folk tales and little American girls tried to learn the fine art of weaving a sari. Golden turbans posed no problem to the boys because they came ready-made from Indian but wearing a dhoti proved tough.

Eager Americans listen intently to Sari-clad Mrs. Eva Ray as she explains the nuances of Indian sculpture. With a sense of pride, museum director, Mrs. Jean Boggs, recalls how it took them more than two years to collect the exhibits. "We hope the exhibition will bridge the cultural gap between India and the U.S. and promote greater understanding," she says.

"Manifestations of Shiva" is the brainchild of Dr. Stella Kramrish, curator of Indian art at the museum. She devoted ten years of her life to study the Shiva cult which is followed, according to her, by 250 million people.

GOAN GROUP ELECTS OFFICER SLATE

The Goan Association of New York has announced the election of the following to its executive committee:

Paulo Gomes, President; Albano Dias, Vice President; Eric Pinto, Treasurer; Maria Fernandes and Tommy Fernandes, Joint Secretaries; Gladwin D'Costa, Leslie D'Souza and Leopold D'Mello, Ex-Officio Members.

SAUDI ARABIA

SAUDI PACTS SIGNED

India signed two pacts with Saudi Arabia to further capital investment and set up joint ventures between the two countries.

Under one agreement, the Saudi Fund for Development will provide $32 million for Bihar's Koel Karo hydel project. This loan brings to $132 million the total assistance provided by the Saudi fund for India's economic development, according to government officials.

Earlier, the fund extended a $100 million loan for the Srisailam and Nagarjunasagar power projects.

DAMS PLANNED

Under the Koel Karo project, India plans to build two earth dams – one across the North Karo River and the other across the South Koel River – and install two power stations with a generating capacity of 710 megawatts.

Officials said that the agreement for economic and technical cooperation – the other pact signed – will liberalise the exchange of information of scientific and technical research between the two countries.

In addition, the agreement calls for more visits by economic and technical experts for certain cooperative programs.

The economic and technical cooperation agreement, which was signed by External Affairs Minister Narasimha Rao and Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al-Faisal, aims to further agricultural, animal husbandry, and industrial and technical development projects in the two countries.

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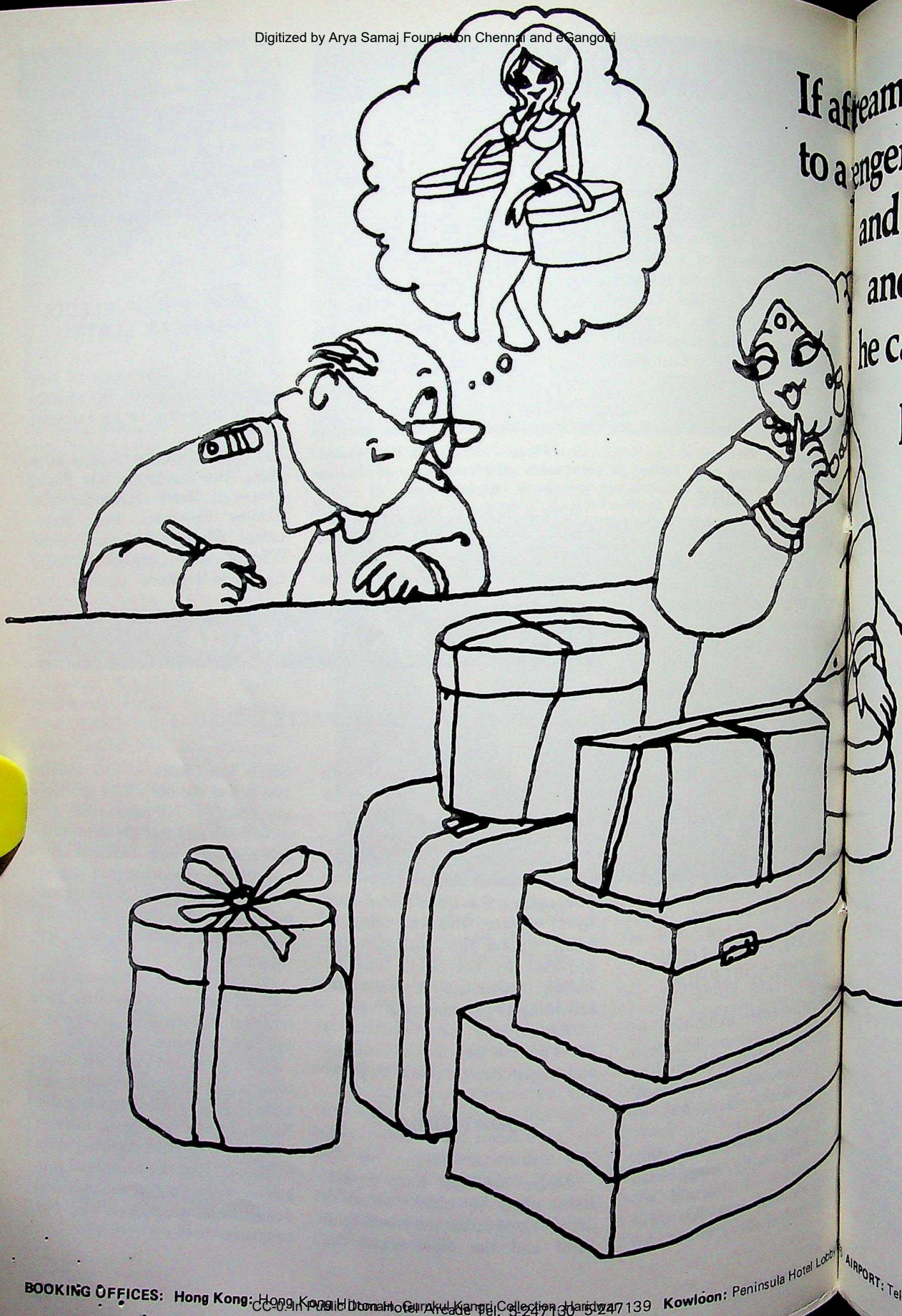

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AMBASSADOR TO BAHRAIN

Mr. Prem Singh, at present acting high commissioner of India to Mauritius, has been appointed ambassador to Bahrain in succession to Mr. Hari Krisnan Mahajan. He is expected to take up his assignment shortly, according to an official release.

ENVOY TO LIBYA

Mr. Arjun Gobindram Asrani, at present joint secretary in the ministry of finance, has been appointed ambassador of India to Libya in succession to Mr. Narendra Singh. He is expected to take up his assignment shorty, says an official release.

TWO NEW ENVOYS

Mr. Gnoudrup Dorji Atuk, at present counsellor in the Indian embassy, Damascus, has been appointed high commission of India to Malawi in succession to Mr. Paramjit Singh Sahai.

Mr. Parimal Ghosh, former minister of state for railways, has been appointed ambassador of India to Turkey in succession to Mr. Nagendra Nath Jha.

INDIAN ENVOYS TO FIVE COUNTRIES NAMED

India's ambassador to Libya, Mr. Narendra Singh, has been appointed ambassador to Switzerland in succession to Mr. Gurbachan Singh.

The external affairs ministry has also announced four other diplomatic postings.

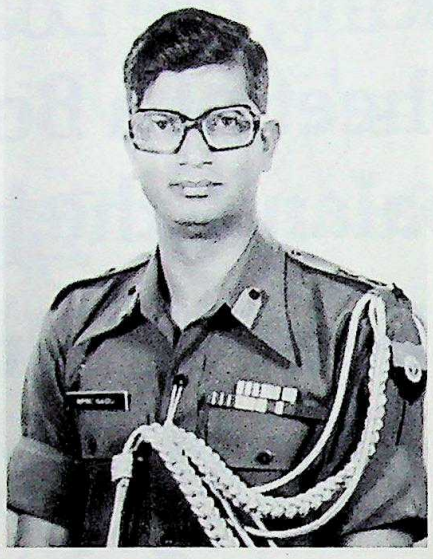
Mr. Chandrasekhar Dasgupta, presently joint secretary in the external affairs ministry, has been appointed high commissioner to Singapore in succession to Mr. Bhupatray Oza.

Mr. Preet Mohan Singh Malik, Indian ambassador to Cuba, has been appointed ambassador to Jordan in succession to Mr. Abdul Ghani Goni.

Mr. Ravinder Kumar Jerath, minister in the Indian embassy in Washington, has been appointed ambassador to Philippines in succession to Mr. Lakshmi Narayan Raj.

INDIAN AIR NAVAL MILITARY ATTACHES

NEW



Colonel R.P. Rama Chandra Naidu, New Indian Air, Naval & Military Attache in the Indian Embassy of Ethiopia arrived in Addis Ababa in March, 1981 to resume his new post succeeding col. Dev Dutt.

Col. Naidu, an infantry officer, served with the Gorkhas for 19 years. He was commissioned in 1962 from the Indian Military Academy, Dehradun and he served in various field and peace areas. He was an instructor at the Indian Military Academy and also at the Young officers Wing of the Infantry School. He was awarded the Vishishth Seva Medal in 1971.

Col. R.P. Chandra, born in Tamil Nadu, was educated in Bangalore (King Goerge School & St. Joseph College). His wife Usha is also from Bangalore. They have two children Meera & Prahlad.

OUTGOING

Indian Air, Naval & Military Attache Col. D.R. Dutt left Addis Ababa on 1st April, 1981 with his wife Shrimati Mohini Dutt after completing his three & half years of service as a Military Attache in the Embassy of India, Ethiopia. Col. Dev Dutt left for India where he has been promoted as a Brigadier General.

Dutt couple got a very warm farewell on their departure to India from the Indian Community, Foreign Diplomats and from the Chiefs of the Ethiopian Army, Navy and Airforce.

'KEY' TO LOS ANGELES GIVEN TO AMBASSADOR NARAYANAN

Ambassador Kocheril Raman Narayanan was presented with a key to the city of Los Angeles by Mayor Tom Bradley April 15, in what was termed a "symbolic gesture" of the city's welcome to the envoy. The eight-inch-long engraved bronze key was presented by Mr. Bradley at a breakfast meeting held in Mr. Narayanan's honour by the Indian American Chamber of Commerce, Los Angeles, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel.

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Gleanings from Indian press

BOMBAY RENAMED

Bombay will be officially christened as Mumbai after June 30.

ECONOMIC GROWTH

India achieved a moderate rate of economic growth in fiscal 1980-81 after the slump caused by rising oil prices in 1979, according to a confidential World Bank report on the Indian economy.

TEA EXPORTS SET RECORD

The export of tea from India reached a new record of 247.6 million kilograms during the fiscal year 1980-81, according to the Tea Board. This was 5.6 million kilograms more than the previous high reached during 1976-77.

INDIA TO BOOST FREE TRADE ZONES

India plans to set up more free trade zones to boost exports and reduce its trade deficit, Finance Minister Ramaswami Venkataraman said. At present, India has two free trade zones at Santa Cruz-Bombay and at Kandla, in Gujarat also on the western coast.

COLLABORATION WITH AUSTRIA

Indo-Austrian collaboration in hydro-electric power generation and production of iron ore pellets was discussed by Austria's foreign minister, Dr. Willibald Pahr, and two Austrian ministers in Delhi. In his talks with Mr. Pranab Mukherjee, minister for steel and mines, Dr. Pahr evinced interest in collaborating with India in steel production and iron ore pelletisation.

Austrian cooperation for the steel plant at Paradip, iron ore project at Kudremukh, mining operations in Orissa and electrification of villages in Tamil Nadu was also discussed. Indian participation in Austrian projects in third countries like Saudi Arabia, Bangladesh and Thailand was suggested. The Austrian and Indian ministers felt that the textile agreement, which expires at the end of this year, could be extended pending the outcome of negotiations on multi-fibre arrangements.

FRUIT DRINKS ON TAP

The main metropolitan cities in India would soon have plants to supply ready-to-serve fruit beverages, according to the deputy minister of agriculture, Miss Kamla Kumari.

Inaugurating a seminar on "New horizon of non-alcoholic drinks in eighties" in New Delhi, she said the fruit beverages would be supplied through vending machines to be set up in the main commercial centres and proposals to the effect had already been initiated by the government.

The move would not only generate employment but also provide nutritional fruit juice to consumers at reasonable prices.

WESTON IS DOING ALL-THE-WAY

Weston Electroniks Ltd. has received the highest National Award from the President of India. The award was received by Mr. Prem T. Vachani, Chairman of the company for outstanding export performance.

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BENGAL CUTS ENGLISH TEACHING

The Marxist administration in West Bengal is pushing ahead with its plan to scrap English as a compulsory language for primary students despite strong protests from the state's intellectuals.

KERALA 'MOST LITERATE'

Kerala maintained its status as the most literate state in the country. Kerala set a new record with 69.17 per cent of its population being assessed as literate against the national average of 34.8 per cent, according to the 1981 census.

INDIA'S POPULATION 680 MILLIONS

India's Population has virtually doubled to 68 crores since independence despite decades of family planning.

PROHIBITION DRIVE IN VILLAGES

The All India Pariwar Kalyan Parishad, which is observing 1981 as "Prohibition Year", has decided to hold seminars and meetings in smaller towns and villages. The parishad also plans to organise film and cultural shows on the theme of prohibition in areas around Delhi.

TRADE FAIR

The first major Indian trade exhibition was organised at Jeddah from March 24 to April 2. One hundred and twenty Indian companies participated.

UGANDA WANTS EXPELLED ASIANS TO RETURN

The Ugandan government wanted Asians evicted during the regime of Idi Amin to return and recover their properties. Mr. Gurdial Singh, the Ugandan High Commissioner to India, said in Bombay. He was speaking at a function organised by the Overseas Indian Jaambo Association to felicitate him on his recent appointment.

Mr. Singh said that the election manifesto of the Ugandan People's Party headed by President Milton Obote had promised to invite all the expelled Asians back.

SINDHI SAHITYA SAMMELAN

Sindhi Sahitya Sammelan sponsored by the Government of Gujarat and organised by the Gandhidham Collegiate Board was held at Adipur (Gandhidham) recently. Messages of good wishes for this function were received from the Governor and the Chief Minister of Gujarat, Shri M. V. Kamath Editor of Illustrated Weekly of India, Shri P.G. Mahadevan, News Editor of the Times of India (Ahmedabad) and Barrister H.G. Advani, Chairman of National Collegiate Board (Bombay). The function was inaugurated by eminent Sindhi scholar Padma Shree Prof. Ram Panjwani. Kaka P.S. Tolani (Founder of Tolani Foundation) and Shri S.L. Verma, I.A.S., Chairman of Kandla Port Trust were the President and the Chief Guest respectively of this function. The following distinguished writers were felicitated and honoured by Kaka Tolani on behalf of Gandhidham Collegiate Board: Prof. Ram Panjwani for being decorated by the Government of India with Padma Shree. Shri Kirat Babani for getting Soviet Land Nehru Peace Award, Shri Krishin Khatwani for getting Sahitya Akademi Award for his novel 'Yaad Hik Pyar Ji' in Sindhi.

The Sammelan brought together eminent Sindhi Writers & Poets from different parts of India which included Ram Panjwani, Arjan Shad, Kirat Babani, Tirath Sabhani, Gobind Malhi, Krishin Rahi, A.J. Uttam, Hundraj Dukhayal, Narain Shyam, Prabhu Wafa, Ram Chandnani, Inder Bhojwani, Guno Samtani, Mohan Kalpna, Krishin Khatwani, Vasudev Mohi, Hundraj Balwani, Arjan Hasid, Harish Vaswani, Hiro Shewkani, Parso Gidwani, Lakhmichand, Sundri Uttamchandani and Popati Hiranandani. Prof. Harish Vaswani was in charge of the Microphone.

Recently concluded Sindhi Sahitya Sammelan at Adipur (Gandhidham) sponsored by the Government of Gujarat and organised by the Gandhidham Collegiate Board brought to-gether eminent Sindhi writers and poets from different parts of India. Seen in this photograph are Padma Shree Prof. Ram Panjwani (on left) and Mr. Ram Chandnani, Founder-President of World Sindhi Brotherhood Association and well known Journalist.

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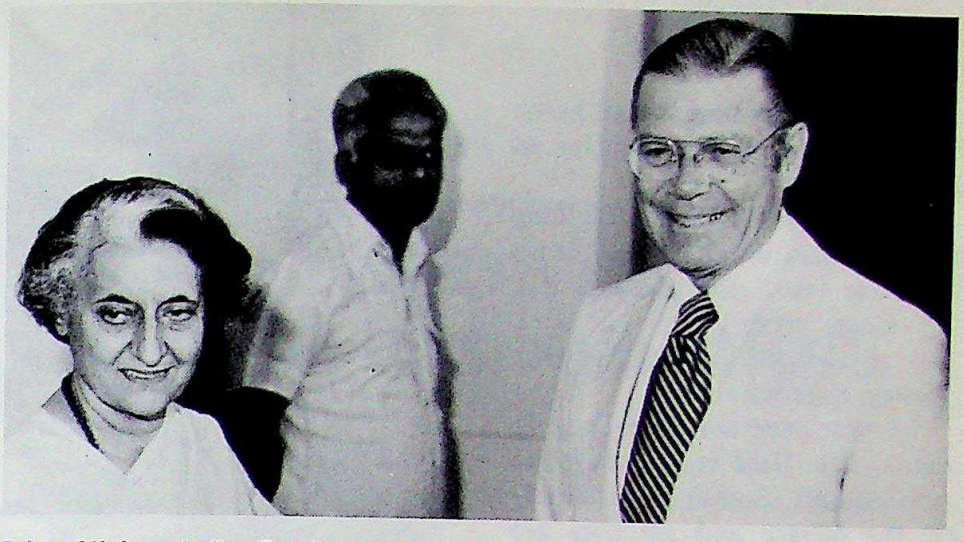
WORLD BANK CHIEF WITH P.M.



Prime Minister Indira Gandhi with Mr. Robert S. McNamara, President World Bank, in New Delhi recently.

Photo: PIB, New Delhi.

DELHI PREPARES FRANTICALLY FOR ASIAD

Roads are being torn up, trees chopped down and concrete structures are filling up open fields in frenetic preparation for next year's Asian Games here. The hectic activity is because work began only last November. As a result, there are fears not all the facilities will be ready in time for the games.

India is virtually starting from scratch to provide modern sports facilities for athletes from some 30 countries who are expected to compete in the games in November next year. "Delhi had no facilities for sports for the past 30 years. We are now providing it all in one go" Surender Singh Gill, Secretary General of the Asian Games Organising Committee, told newsmen. He said each stadium would have synthetic turf, electronic scoreboards and audio communication equipment.

Work is under way on a new outdoor stadium for track and field events which could be watched by 75,000 persons. Indoor games will be staged in a stadium big enough for about 25,000 spectators. An air-conditioned swimming pool complex is being built in the heart of the city. Also under construction are several smaller stadia, a sprawling sports village to accommodate more than 5,000 athletes and officials, 10 new hotels and seven road overpasses to ease traffic congestion.

From an initial estimate of a mere $31.5 million, the games and other newly created facilities are now expected to cost $175 million, officials said.

The opening of the games, to be spread over 15 days, has already been put off once. They were to have started on October 31 but are now set for November 19.

"There are good chances of another postponement," Malhotra (former Member of Parliament) said. But Gill said: "If the games are to be held at all, there will be no further postponement." He said the October date was found unsuitable because it was too close after the Commonwealth Games in Brisbane.

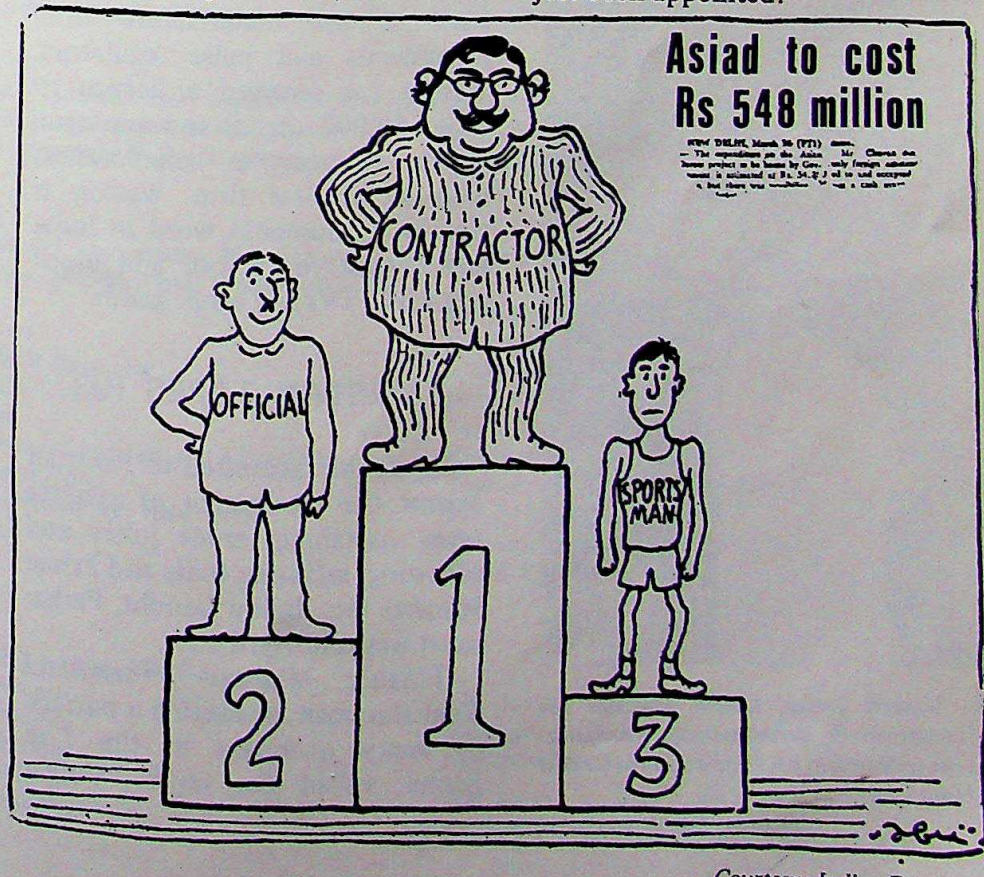
There has been much public criticism about the disarray in the official organisation for the Asian Games, virtually in government charge. Two chairmen of the organising committee have been replaced in two years and a new one has just been appointed.

ELECTRIC TRAIN BEFORE ASIAN GAMES IN DELHI

Electric trains will run on the Delhi ring railway by the time the Asian Games are held in 1982.

Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd., which has contributed substantially towards railway electrification in the last two decades, will supply complete electrics for these suburban trains.

Most electric suburban trains in Bombay, Calcutta and Madras are already fitted with BHEL electries.



Courtesy: Indian Express

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STAY COOL THE CHEAPER WAY!

You can now have a cool home in hot summer without putting an air conditioner.

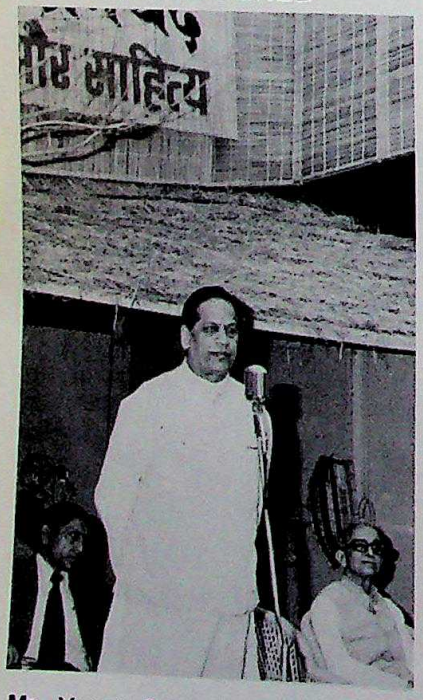
Scientists of the Central Building Research Institute (CBRI) in Roorkee have found the cheapest and the most natural way to cool. And you don't have to spend a paise on electricity.

All you need are several empty gunny bags. Used cement bags are good enough. Spread them closely on the terrace and see they are soaked with water all the time.

As the water evaporates, the roof and then the rooms, get cool the same way a mud pot chills the water through evaporation from the surface.

This is the "gunny bag air conditioner" and CBRI says it works so well that Bharat Heavy Electrical Limited (BHEL) in Hardwar, and Punjab University in Chandigarh have gone in for this method.

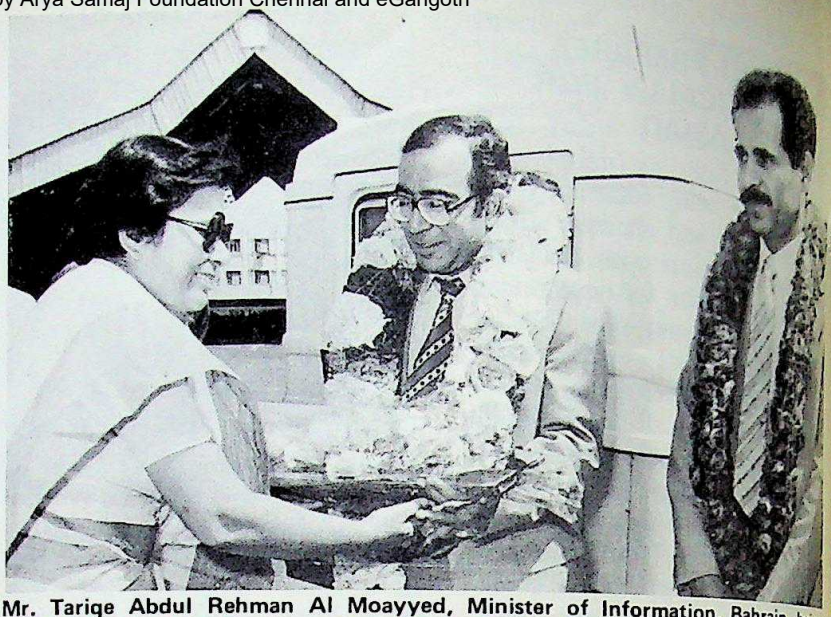
PREM CHAND REMEMBERED



Mr. Vasant Sathe, Union Minister for Information & Broadcasting, inaugurating an exhibition on Munshi Prem Chand in New Delhi on March 28.

Photo: PIB, New Delhi.

MINISTER RECEIVES V.V.P.



Mr. Tariqe Abdul Rehman Al Moayyed, Minister of Information, Bahrain, being received by Kumari Kumud Joshi, India's Deputy Minister for Information & Broadcasting, on his arrival at Delhi Airport during a recent visit. *Photo: PIB, New Delhi.*

WESTON GOES MEDICAL

Weston Electroniks – makers of entertainment electronics – is now diversifying into medical electronic wrist watches. Mr. Prem T. Vachani, chairman of the company, told newsmen that Weston has already started making blood pressure measuring instruments for the first time in India in collaboration with a Taiwan firm. Later it will manufacture ECG instruments and pulse regulators. Weston has received a licence to make 50,000 digital and anologue watches a year, in collaboration with a Japanese firm. Weston is already a household word in India and abroad for colour and black and white TVs and other goods.

PAKISTAN TAPES HIT

India has protested to Pakistan against the production of cassette tapes containing crude jokes and film songs satirising India and Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi, Parliament was told April 23.

Finance Minister Ramaswami Venkataraman, answering a barrage of angry questions in the Lok Sabha, called the tapes "Vulgar propaganda." He said that as there was complete censorship in Pakistan, the tapes were obviously issued by some of the state-owned companies. One tape was "totally false" as it mentioned an alleged dinner hosted by Gandhi for an Israeli minister which never took place, the minister said. Venkataraman said India had lodged an official protest with the Pakistan government to stop further production, sale and export of the tapes which were also circulating in some middle east countries.

MOON-SHAPED UFOs SEEN IN ANDHRA

Thousands of people in two Andhra towns Kothagudam and Nellore – witnessed a spectacular phenomenon – some brightly coloured Moon-shaped objects on the eastern horizon.

People in the coal town of Kothagudam saw two round objects for about 10 minutes. Hued in bright yellow, they gradually changed to glittering blue, flaming red and dazzling white before disappearance.

The citizens of Nellore also saw a bright round object rise from the north-east glowing in a mixture of yellow and orange, before splitting into three circles, positioned like a pyramid.

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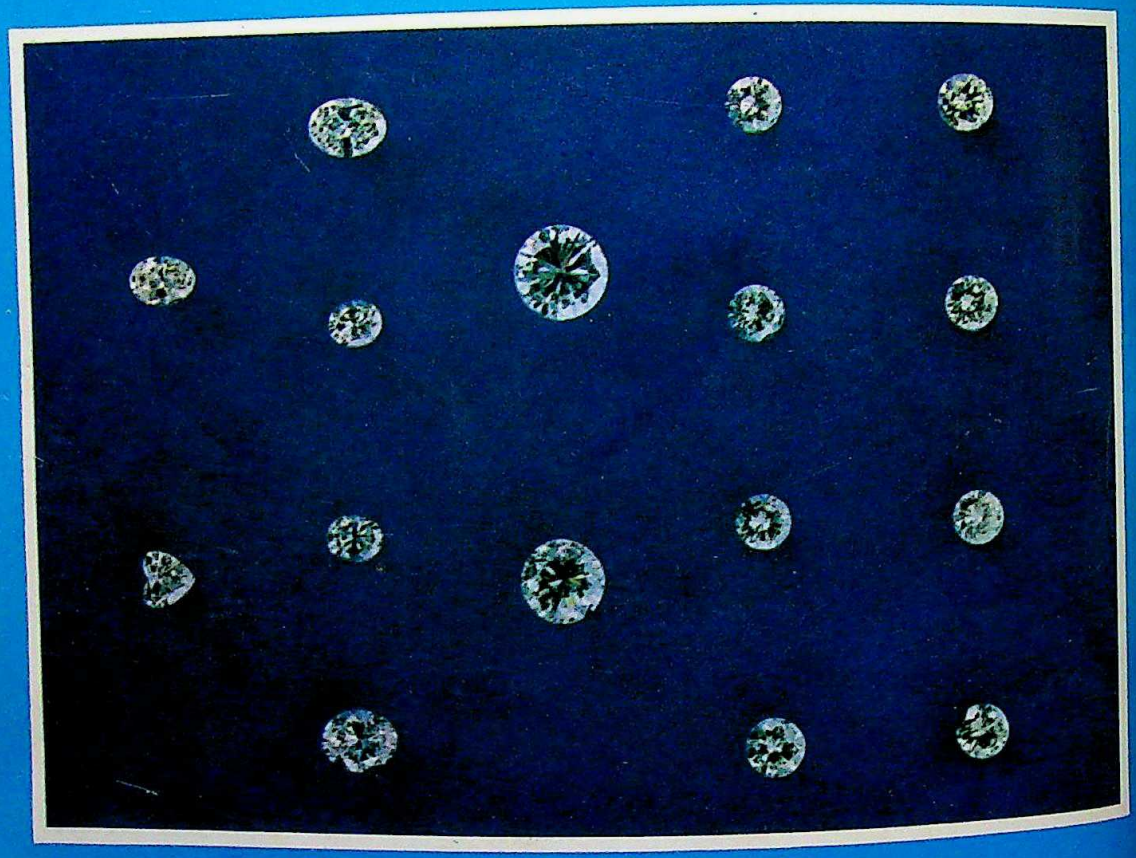

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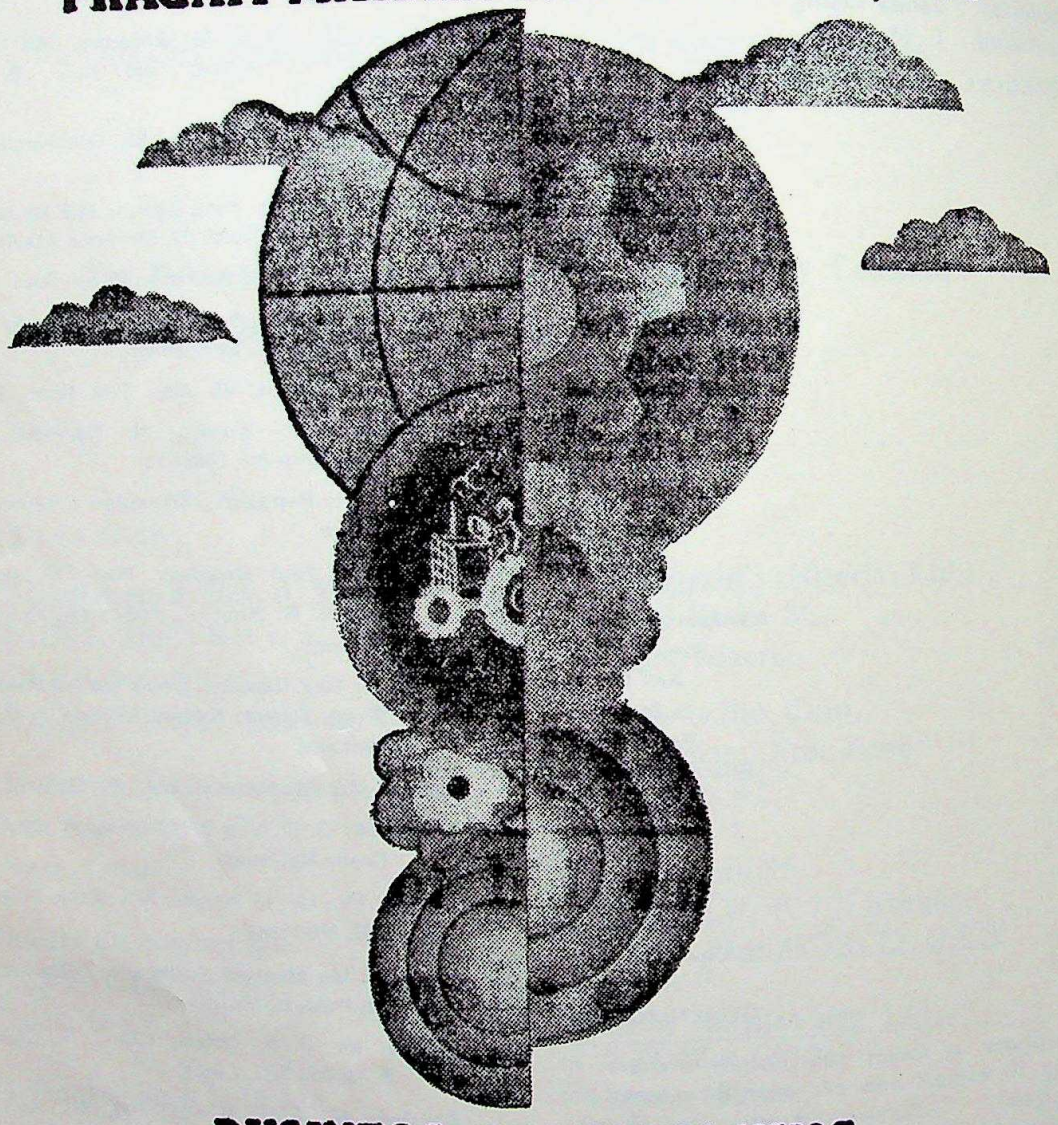

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Samaiki

H. Sitaraj

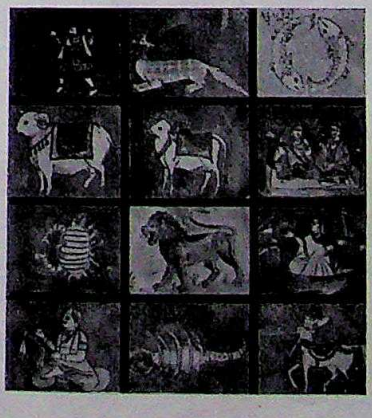
SENSELESS KILLING

The assassination of President Rahman of Bangladesh is a horrible deed which has been condemned by all countries of the world. This young nation of 90 million people has never seen peace and stability eversince its birth. President Rahman was gradually putting the country together and leading it on to the path of economic development. His death has put the clock back in Bangladesh.

When will people learn that coups, assassinations and revolutions are no answers to progress through development. How can you develop a country by killing her leaders. Why can't people sit together to sort out their differences and stop gunning down one another.

Let us hope there are no more killings, no murders of leaders, no torturing of opponents and no use of guns in settling differences. God created Man in his own image. He did not create man to behave like animals.

Our deep sympathies to the people of Bangladesh.



Cover:
The Rasi Valaya Yantra is a group of twelve instruments based on the same principle as the Samrat Yantra. Each Rasi Valaya carries the proper name of the sign of the Zodiac. These are: Aquarius, Capricorn, Pisces, Aries, Taurus, Gemini, Cancer, Leo, Virgo, Libra, Scorpio and Sagittarius.

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Rear View

Commentary

April issue featured a vital editorial, complete with graphic documentation, as written under "Samaiki" by this publication's editor. The editorial pointed to and appealed for concerted widespread initiatives aimed at thwarting the spread of international terrorism and violence.

Of the issues cited, and the solutions outlined, an urgent appeal was made to stem this growing, out-of-hand dilemma. To quote the words of Editor K. Sital, "Freedom from terror is basic to human existence". And indeed it is.

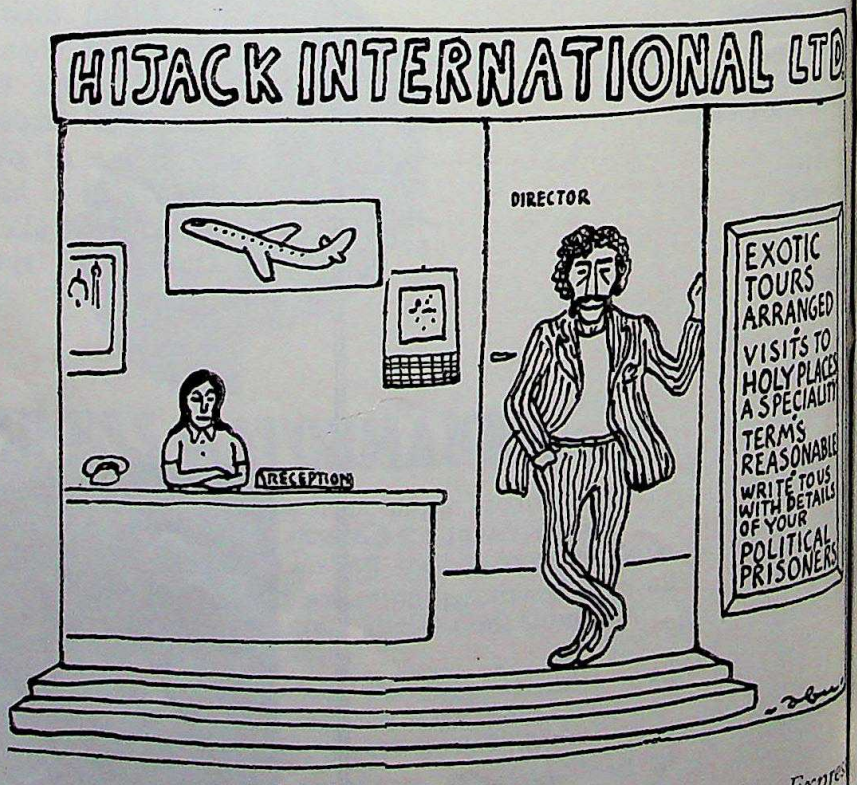
Notwithstanding other elements basic to human existence – inclusive of freedom from want and hunger, freedom from the denial of basic human rights – the equally serious threats posed by terror and violence cannot, must not, be let to grow and go on. It is a crisis growing ever more prevalent and more and more endemic to our world. It is also a crisis to which each of us who can must address ourselves, both individually and as one: not simply for ourselves and others, but for our children and theirs, and the generations that follow.

It is a foregone conclusion, then, that unless and until an international effort is consolidated – not soon, but now – we shall never be rid of the acts, nor the spoils, of hostility, violence, terrorism, crime, and war, be it at home or abroad. These are ills that will never simply 'go away'. Nor can they be wished away. But they CAN be remedied. Better still, they can be dealt with and done away with, once and for all. And the time is now.

To assert as much is not sheer idealism. Rather, it is a dimension of realism not yet attempted in a world content to delude itself in illusions and lies. But all day-dreams, like dreams, must come to an end; it is time to wake up now! The hour is late. And reality awaits . . . much of it stealthily.

As was editorialized in the Sital appeal, not only the need is present, but also the means, to carry out ways to deal with this pressing dilemma. What affects us all surely cannot be so insoluble as to allow ourselves to become increasingly vulnerable. Insight gained in sorting out and understanding any problem is half the solution. As is said, the journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step.

To the fore, then – in view of certain relevent, intervening events since the "Samaiki" editorial



Courtesy: Indian Expres

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...peared – comes the following ...-depth commentary. It raises ...hat is in keeping with the tenor ...f internationalism voiced, and ...poses to further that voice – particularly towards the ears of the indifferent – of what has been called for an what is now altogether requisite.

– Carolyn Sharma

Reservation And After

The unconditional calling off of the 102-day-old agitation by Gujarat medicos for the abolition of reservations in postgraduate medical courses on April 13 ended an unhappy caste strife that had claimed 42 lives. The accord included the creation of additional seats of housemen and increased stipends but the Government did not yield ground on the abolition of reservations. The maintenance of reservations is an issue on which recently there was unique unanimity in the Parliament.

Gujarat was not the first state where the trenches were dug for a protracted war of the castes. U.P., Bihar and Maharashtra have had their caste battles. Assam students' campaign to oust 'foreigners' from the north-eastern state (the Gujarat agreement may provide a precedent to solve the impasse) has been echoed by ethnic war slogans in Manipur, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Kerala. None of these presage any good to the body politic of the country. Meanwhile, the parameters of the caste reservations are being expanded. The U.P., Madhya Pradesh and Karnataka state governments have refined the reservation system in differing ways, some creating jobs for "special backward groups" besides Harijans and tribals. This is enjoined as the legacy of Mahatma Gandhi and has to continue so long as these erstwhile depressed classes make the grade.

The snag, however, is that inter-caste animosities are being ruthlessly exploited by politicians of the ruling as well as the opposition parties. And, worse still, the mass of Harijans and tribals are left practically untouched by the open sesame of reservations. The need of the day is that they throw up a leadership that compares to the stature of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, and has the vision to look beyond the pale of reservations to equal participation in educational and career opportunities and full integration with rest of the segments of the Indian society.

– Somnath Dhar

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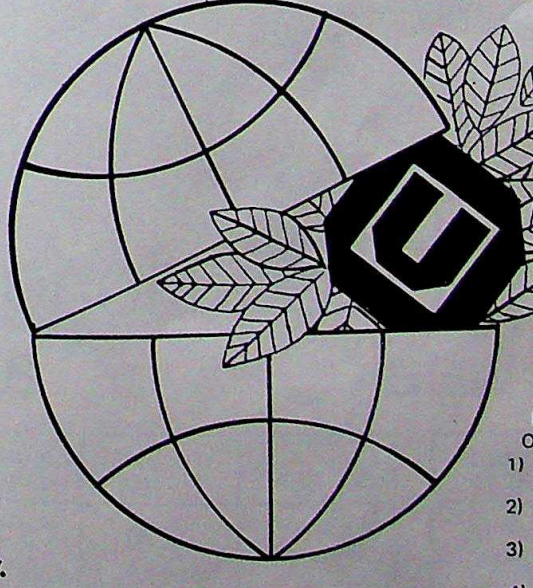

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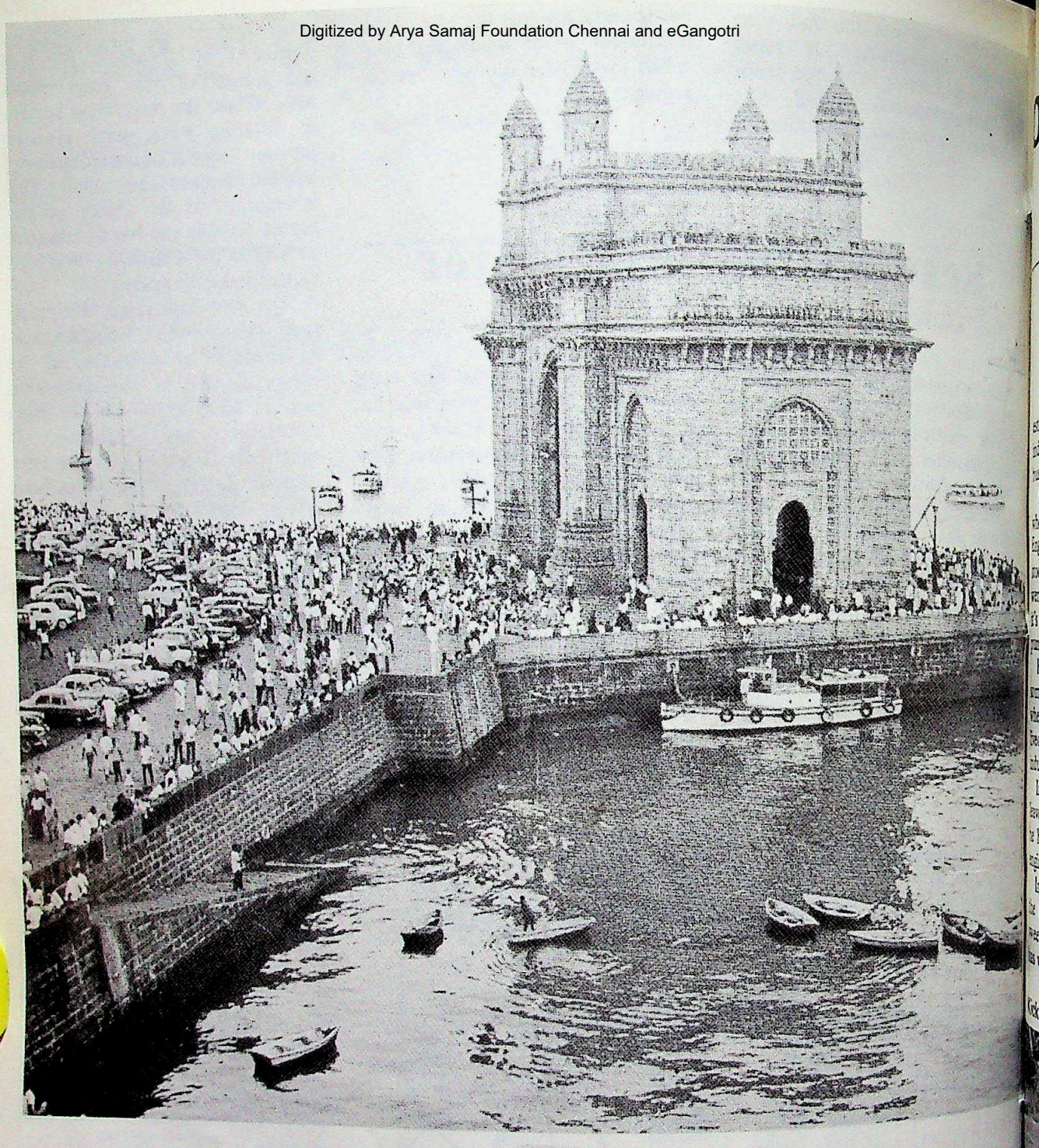

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ON THE RACE TRACKS

An exclusive interview with Shekhar Mehta by our Kenya Correspondent Kul Bhushan.

Born near Jinja in Uganda on the family sugar estate in 1945, Shekhar Mehta comes from the industrialists family having extensive industrial and business interests in East Africa, India and Europe.

He went to Switzerland for primary education when he was five years old. Then he studied in England where he worked as an apprentice with a stockbroker. "They could not sack me, the family were one of their biggest clients. I learned one thing, it's the stockbrokers who make the money not the punters," he quips.

He went on to India to stay with his family for sometime who run a cement factory at Porbander, where his parents stayed. He returned to Uganda and lived near Jinja on his sprawing agricultural and industrial estate.

In 1972, Ugandan dictator Idi Amin asked him to leave along with other Ugandan Asians. Since then, he has been living in Kenya and manages a motor engineering business.

In 1973 Shekhar Mehta won the Safari Rally for the first time and General Amin sent him a bitter-sweet cable of congratulations. Since then Mehta has won the Rally four times. the last three of which in a row, thus creating a new record.

How do you feel winning the 1981 Rally, which was spoiled by appeals and counter appeals?

I feel sad that 11 years of friendship is down the drain. The amount of cooperation between Rauno and I has been fantastic.

How do you feel towards Rauno Aaltonen?

I was his disciple. He taught me how to drive, how to deal with a team manager and how to deal with press and now we are good friends and teammates. I hope that our relationship will again revert to this same level as before.

How long have you been taking part in rallies?

I started in 1966.

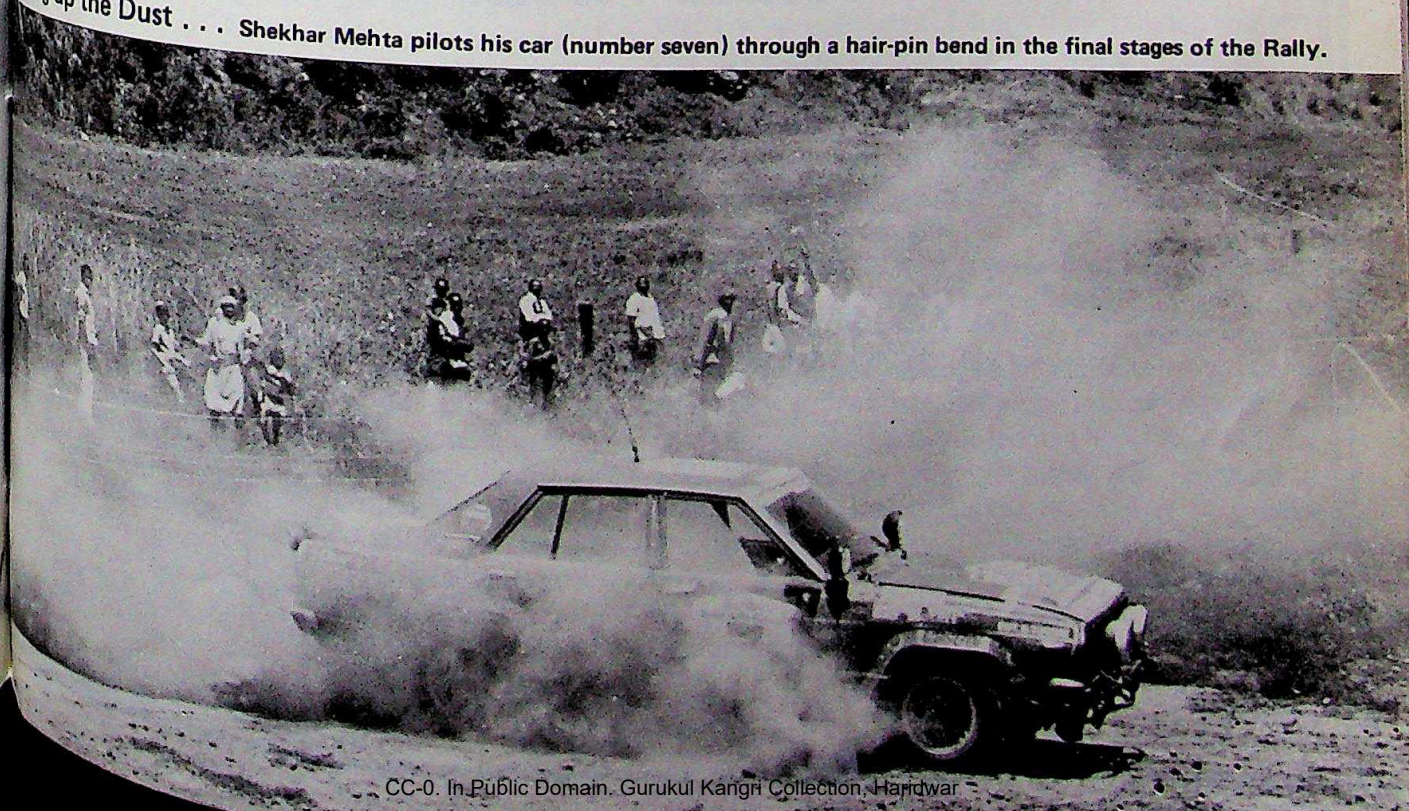
When did you first get interested?

In fact, it was the same year I started.

Was there anything special that triggered your interest?

No. It was entirely by accident. In those days I lived in Uganda. We had one motor club called the "Uganda Motor Club", and we went to one of their meetings and started. It was not a conscious decision. We just sort of fell into it.

Kicking up the Dust . . . Shekhar Mehta pilots his car (number seven) through a hair-pin bend in the final stages of the Rally.



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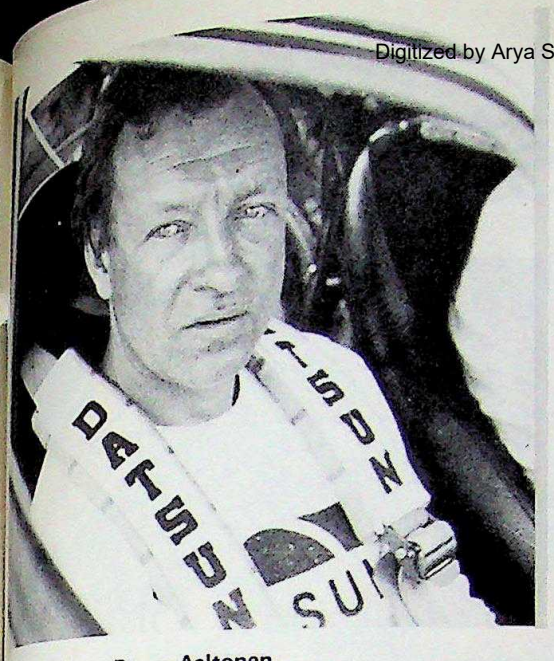

Finnish rally-winner Rauno Aaltonen.

Three-times safari-winner Shekhar Mehta with wife Yvonne.

At that time, was there any driver you particularly admired?

Yes, In those days, of course, the world rallying was Rauno Aaltonen . . . Timo Makinen . . . Bjorn Waldegaard had already won the Monte . . . so it was a small handful of drivers who were right at the top of the rally world at that time.

When you actually first took part in a rally, how old were you?

20.

Were you the driver or co-driver?

I was the driver, in a BMW.

And you have driven yearly since then?

Yes from 1966 to 1970, rallying was not a very serious sport for me. I enjoyed it as an enthusiastic private owner. Then, in 1970, I had a Datsun, a personal car, which I bought for rallies, and we started getting good results. From then on, it become more serious. After 1972, I really got serious about rallying, because until 1972, I was working in Uganda and I couldn't take time off for rallies, but Idi Amin, when he came into power in Uganda, kicked us out, and I had far more time after that!

You have won the overall title in the Safari Rally four times is there a secret to your victories which you might want to share with us?

I don't think there's a simple answer to that. I think in all four we won, we had the most reliable cars. Each time, in the beginning we had quite a lot of competition, but towards the end our cars were the only ones which had not had long repairs, and I think is the first and foremost thing in the Safari. The car must not stop for repairs. The Safari is completely different from other rallies in that respect: never enough time to do more than routine maintenance. You have enough time to change tyres or something like that, but a new gearbox, for instance, then you are in big trouble, then it's very difficult to win. Whereas, in the RAC Rally, you can change your gearbox twelve times and still have no problems with time.

Do you think one has to undergo a special training in order to become a good rally driver?

Yes, I think training is the correct word. For instance, there are many drivers, very young drivers, who can drive very very fast. But in rallying to finish first, first you must finish, and this is the big problem. Probably, at a young age, very few drivers can drive with their head. It's quite easy to drive fast for a short period, but you have to keep a steady pace without breaking the car. In my case, it wasn't training, it was experience. Something you cannot teach people is how to use their head, though you can certainly teach them driving techniques.

Do you see changes in the future of rallying?

I think we will learn to live with the oil crisis, if that's what you mean. I don't think rallying will stop any more than weekend driving will stop. But I think there will be changes – we are going to have the super cars again, the specials, like the Renault, Turbo, the Quattro, the Audi and four-wheel drive is here to stay now, and a lot more money is going to be spent on development.

And do you think it is a reasonable way to spend money – you don't think it's a waste?

You have to spend money on developing cars because progress must be made and you cannot seperate a proper test from the rest of research and development – you do learn a lot from rallying, and any serious manufacturer will consider a limited rallying programme. It's a way of putting the car through its paces, and this helps the general breed. A basic example without motor-sport, we wouldn't have disc brakes today – they were considered unnecessary.

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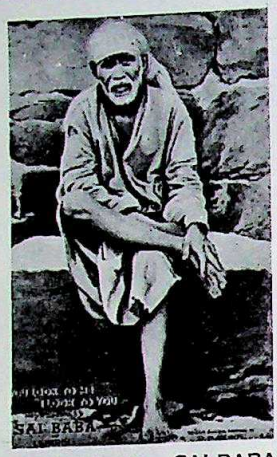

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Indians in Bahrain

By H.K. Mahajan,
Indian Ambassador in Bahrain

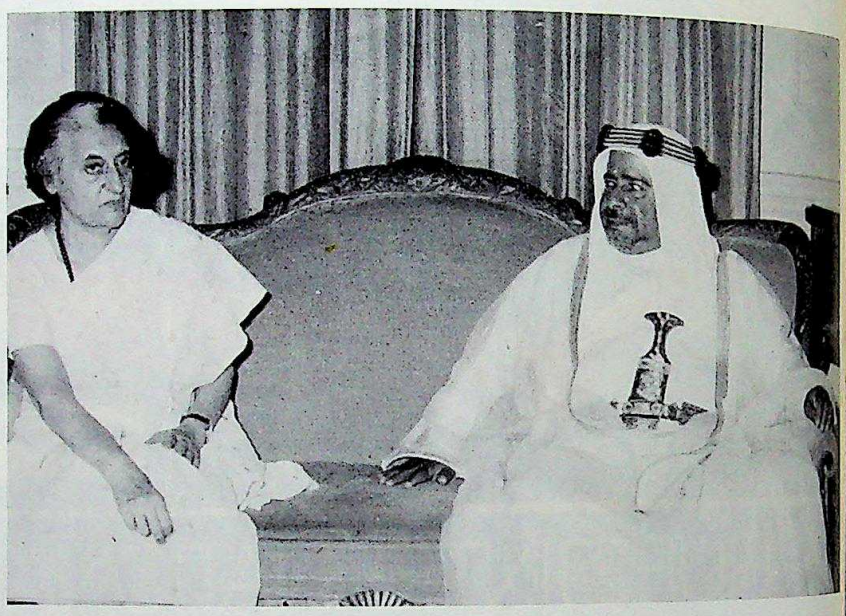
Till December 1973, the Government of Bahrain followed vigorously its policy of Bahrainisation. Consequently, a large number of Indians lost their jobs in major industrial and commercial establishments.

Things, however took a turn for the better since early 1974, with the hike in oil prices, resulting into an unprecendented economic boom in the Gulf. The following three years saw an all round expansion of foreign trade, general business activity, government spending, banking and most important of all, construction activity of every kind from housing to urban development.

This created large-scale demand for technical personnel and labour force. Indian has figured in this venture mostly as a source of cheap labour, although a sizeable number of our engineers and technicians are now working in this island. Today, 45,000 Indians form the single largest expatriate community in Bahrain.

Though workers of practically every category, right from top management and engineering cadre down to the menial positions like sweepers and domestics are in short supply in Bahrain, the government has not allowed their unrestricted entry.

To ensure that their own nationals are not adversely affected, the government of Bahrain has provided, under the latest labour law, that a work permit will be issued to an employer, in respect of the prospective expatriate worker, if the employer can justify his requirement and also convince the Bahrain Ministry of Labour that workers in that category are not locally available. Seamen and domestics are not however, covered by this labour law and hence they do not require a work permit.



Shaikh Isa Bin Sulman Al-Khalifa, the Amir of the State of Bahrain where the largest number of Indians are settled among the Gulf countries, is seen with the Prime Minister Indira Gandhi during his recent official visit to New Delhi.

In order to assess their requirement of unskilled labour vis-a-vis availability of jobs in Bahrain, the government suspended the issue of a new visa for a period of 3 months to unskilled labour (except construction workers). Effective from 1 January 1981, the ban may be extended, if considered necessary. There is a feeling among official circles that there are far too many unskilled expatriates working in coffee snack bars, barber shops, cold stores, tailoring shops and general workshops, although according to them, there are many Bahrinis fit enough to take up these jobs.

Wages in Bahrain are about 30 to 50 per cent lower than in any other Gulf State. When the job contract is entered into in India the employees do not realise that the cost of living in Bahrain is much higher. Having once signed the contract for a lower wage, they cannot get it raised before the expiry of the contract (usually for two years). We have received innumerable reports from individuals as well as large groups where in they have complained about extremely low wages paid to them. In all such cases, the Embassy, however, does not have any legal ground for action. This is,

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The visiting Amir, Shaikh Isa Bin Sulman Al-Khalifa, gave a banquet in honour of his Indian hosts at Diwan-i-Am, the elegant restaurant of the Taj Mahal Hotel, New Delhi. After the dinner, President Neelam Sanjiva Reddy is seen with the Amir and Prime Miniter Indira Gandhi.

India and Bahrain signing a technical and cultural cooperation agreement.

...nomic terms, sheer exploitation ... once an agreement is signed, ...e is no way by which it could ... corrected. On the other hand, ...ctive measures have been pro... for changing a job or failure ... attend to the job. Strict com... of a EMI Agreement was ...orced by this Mission in order ... ensure that our workers did ... get less than 70 Bahrain dinars ... month, i.e., BD 2.4 per day ... B.D. equals Rs. 20.75). ... is heartening to note that all ... Embassy's EMI agreements ... been benefited by way of ...her wages. However, following ... 1979 verdict of the Supreme ...rt, on the emigration pro... the Embassy is in no ...ition to enforce the minimum ...es requirements, earlier ...ified.

Workers from Philippines. Thai... and South Korea are paid ...es higher than those paid to ...ian workers (being engaged in ...fessions requiring higher or ...ial skills). While those from ... Lanka, Pakistan and Bangladesh ... paid still lesser wages.

Some companies did not want ... depend upon one or two sources ... recruitment and therefore went ... for recruitment of workers ... Thailand and Philippines.

Even in the case of salaries for ...nical personnel, the local firms ... higher wages to Americans ... Europeans than to Indians.

A survey of workers in Bahrain ...ducted during December 1979 ...wed average monthly income of ...Indian worker as BD 106. There ... about 23,400 Indian workers ... all categories in Bahrain. This ...estimated to have increased to ...00 now.

The average income of workers ...some of the other nationalities ...s under:-

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Jains Seek to Rescue Symbol

By John Dart

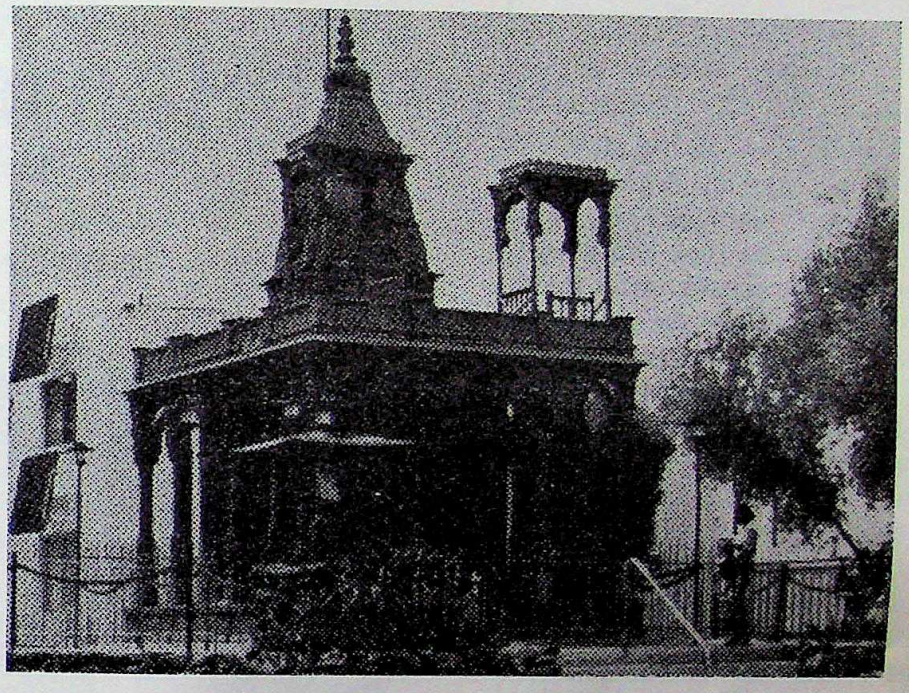
U.S. and Canadian Jains, newly organised into a continental federation for the first time, are seeking to rescue a symbol of their religious heritage from, of all places, a hotel casino in Las Vegas, Nevada.

A 35-foot-high scale model of the Temple of Palitana in western India, originally brought to this country by British sponsors for the 1903-04 St. Louis Exposition, sits behind the Castaways Hotel and Casino in the gambling resort city.

The art work, complete with balcony, winding staircase and sanctuary, shows signs of weathering from years of open-air exposure in the desert city.

The intricately carved teakwood replica is correctly identified by a hotel flyer describing the tourist attraction. But because of its location, it is also called "the Gateway to Luck." A wishing well for tourists' coins is five feet away.

"We believe the display of the temple in this way is an insult," said Lalit Shah of Los Angeles, who was alerted to the existence of the structure a year ago. Shah, the president of the Jain Center of Southern California, began efforts to acquire the replica from the hotel last year. He was elected president of the newly formed Federation of Jain Associations in North America.



Replica of a Jain shrine in Castaways Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas, Nevada.

HOLY MEN VISITED TEMPLE

The first North American convention of Jain center representatives was held recently in nearby Redondo Beach. There are 21 centers along with nine in the process of being established. Three vice presidents – from Boston, Washington, D.C., and Cleveland – were elected. Before the conference ended, Shah took two Jain holy men who teach and live in New York City to Las Vegas to see the temple replica.

The *munis*, of the Svetambara sect, were Acharya Sushil Muni and Gurudev Chitrabhanu. The former broke centuries of Jain tradition in June 1975 when he went 20 miles to the Delhi Airport on foot (the traditional way to travel) and boarded a plane for the United States.

Shah wrote to Castaways president Bill Friedman that the American Jains hoped to preserve the temple replica as a "national religious shrine."

Friedman told this reporter that while the Jains might like to have the temple given to them, there was "no chance of it."

The Castaways Hotel's parent company, the Summa Corporation, is having the temple appraised for an estimate of its worth. While the owners are willing to part with it, they indicate that its sale would be a matter of negotiation.

PART OF HUGHES ESTATES

A complicating factor, it was learned, is that it is part of the estate of the late billionaire Howard Hughes. The temple replica was on the Castaways property long before Hughes bought the hotel-casino in 1967, but it nevertheless is regarded as part of the Hughes estate. Friedman said the art object should be sold to protect the interests of any future heirs designated by the courts.

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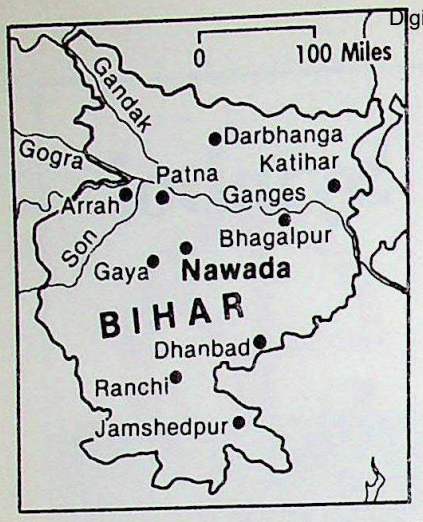

A hotel flyer on the history of its temple says the British government (then ruling India) employed 65 artisans who took two years to complete the project. After the St. Louis Exposition, the replica ws dismantled, recrated and marked for shipment back to England.

For unknown reasons, it was never returned and an American art dealer stored it. Another dealer bought it at an auction and it was in turn bought by the Castaways.

Shah said that if the temple, said to weigh nearly 14 tons, was acquired, it would be moved to a site in Los Angeles where local Jains hope to establish an ashram.

It was learned that there is a small town in Bihar, India, named Nawada (near Gaya) that has holy significance for the Jains. The Jain munis who visited Las Vegas toyed with a suggestion that the relic may be kept in the desert city and an ashram built around it.

INDIAN DOCTORS ARE AROUND THE GLOBE

There is hardly any country in the world where there is no Indian physician according to a study conducted by the World Health Organisation (WHO).

India contributed the largest number of doctors with an estimated (post-graduated) working abroad.

The main reasons for migration of doctors were said to be higher income and better prospects abroad, the study said.

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Sreekant Khandekar

Rare Honour

Recently when Zimbabwe's Prime Minister Robert Gabriel Mugabe held talks with Mrs Gandhi, a former Indian ambassador who lives in a South Delhi suburb, viewed the meeting with quiet satisfaction. Nirmal Jeet Singh, 61, had every reason to feel that way. His links with Zimbabwe, 28 years old, are still strong, and he has, in fact, done much to promote India's image in that country. An indication of the esteem in which he is held could be had from the fact that Mugabe, in spite of his tight schedule in New Delhi, made it a point to meet Singh. Said Singh: "The people of Zimbabwe don't forget their friends easily." Singh, who has been India's ambassador to Oman and Venezuela, has had an unusual career. Working as truck driver in Delhi for six months and as Air-India executive in Nairobi, Singh's break came in 1953.

The Indian mission in Kenya was on the lookout for someone who could set up India's High Commission in Salisbury, in what was then Southern Rhodesia. The choice fell on Singh because of his understanding of African politics — he had taken a keen interest in the African nationalist movement — and he landed in Salisbury as second secretary, and the first non European diplomat in that country.

Singh: enduring ties

The barriers of colour were firm and Singh found the going rough. In fact, later, when a daughter was born to his wife, she could not be admitted to a maternity home — an incident which figured prominently in Parliament.

The nationalist movement had just begun, and Singh and his wife were soon meeting African leaders regularly, talking to them and listening patiently as the idea of independence grew. Among their friends were Joshua Nkomo and N.M. Shamuyarira, both senior minister in Mugabe's Cabinet, Herbert Chitepo, a prominent leader who was assassinated in 1975, and George Nyandoro, another popular leader. In that country, only at their house could blacks, whites and coloured meet freely, ignoring the laws of apartheid that operated outside.

Recalls Singh: "There were no specific instructions from my superiors to me to operate in the way that I did. But the issues involved interested me directly and I felt very strongly about the injustice done to the blacks and their struggle for independence. Moreover , as India's representative, I felt that my actions were in the long-term interests of my country."

After four years in Salisbury, Singh got a new posting and the course of his career took him to the Netherlands, Thailand, America, Nepal, Oman and Venezuela. All the while he kept in touch with his African friends.

Zimbabwe became independent in April 1980 and earlier this year came a letter from Shamuyarira to a mutual friend in New Delhi, inquiring about Singh's whereabouts. It took some time to locate him and then an invitation was extended to him to attend the first independence anniversary celebrations as a state guest apart from those from the African Front Line states — a rare honour for a one-time second secretary.

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Swami Jyotir Maya Nanda

THE ART OF PERFORMING YOUR OWN DUTY

SWADHARMA

In the Bhagavad Gita, Lord Krishna gives a profound insight into the contrast that exists between Swadharma (one's own duty) and Paradharma (another's duty). A clear understanding of these two is very important for those who adopt the path of Karma Yoga, the process wherein one converts one's actions into a process that purifies the mind and enhances spirtual evolution.

Swadharma is of two types. ...mply there is the general type ...ich is to be practised by all ...man beings, such as being com... ...ionate and kind towards others ...d being helpful in alleviating ...erings in others. This is a duty ...at is common to all human ...gs. Secondly there is the ...ticular type of *Swadharma*, ...ich is a specialized type of ...ty most suited for any particular ...ividual. It is a type of duty that ...ntaneously comes to the in... ...cial. Every individual has a ...ue personality structure: every... ...e has a special talent or inclina... ...on the basis of which he can ...rform a particular work more ...ly and spontaneously than others. For example, some are inclined to farming, some to law or medicine, some to follow certain trades such as that of a goldsmith, some to become university professors, and so forth.

On the other hand, actions that do not come of their own accord, which are contrived by one's abnormal craving and disbalanced mind, are called *Paradharma* – another's duty. People who try to imitate others in following a particular type of work, without taking into consideration their own natural aptitude, are following a wrong course of action. They are pursuing another's duty which is detrimental to their own spiritual evolution.

When a person performs his *Swadharma,* he does not feel the burden of action. There is a sense of spontaneity in his action. He is not prompted by a reward and therefore, he does not become tired, exhausted and bored while performing such an action. Through *Swadharma,* an individual becomes refreshed and inspired.

A person who is joyous expresses his joy through song and dance. While he sings and dances, others are entertained. They feel obliged to him. They praise him for his wonderful gift of joyousness. But he does not feel elated by their praises, because his actions are expressions of his own joy. A similar spirit of selflessness and

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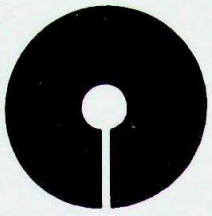

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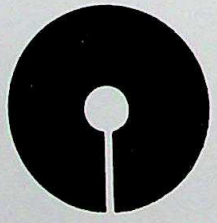

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pontaneity permeates the actions
those who perform their *Swad-*
rma.

The first duty of an aspirant is
turn to his *Swadharma*, and then
gradually develop insight into
art of transforming the *Swad-*
rma into Karma Yoga. If one
ere to perform one's own duty
ithout the spirit of Karma Yoga,
e may gather virtuous Karmas
hich will lead him to heavenly
periences after death, but as long
his ego-consciousness has not
solved, he will not attain Libera-
on. Thereofre, an aspirant must
ain an insight into the fact that
avenly enjoyments do not con-
itute the goal of his life. They
e perishable and they do not
rminate the cycles of birth and
ath. Having understood the
anity behind heavenly enjoyments,
e should aim at attaining Libera-
on in life. The moment this
int is understood, one begins
tread the path of Karma Yoga
hich leads to Liberation.

There are various stages in
rma Yoga: 1. One learns to
rform action without any ex-
ectation or desire for its fruits,
d without developing any attach-
ent towards the action or its
uit, 2. Then one develops a
votional attitude of worshipping
d through the performance of
action. 3. He learns to dedicate
fruit of action to God and thus,
ks for the pleasure of the
finity. 4. He develops an increas-
sense of surrender to the
ine Will, and discovers that he
erely "an instrument" in the
ine Hands. He allows the Divine
to spontaneously flow through
. 5. He develops the vision that
is the Spirit and as such, he is
unfouched by actions and their
ults. He is the non-doer and
enjoyer. He is the immutable
. When the intellect becomes
ly established in this vision,
becomes a *Jivanmukta*, one
is Liberated in life.

While practising Karma Yoga, an
ent often finds himself in a
acement wherein he must per-

form certain actions which are not agreeable to his taste and inclination. In such circumstances he must develop patience. Since the Yogic movement is one of moving from a state of disbalance to a state of balance, it is understandable that such a process of cosmic adjustment must be gradual. The moment you decide to follow the path of Karma Yoga, then nature around you cannot become congenial to you. You are pressured by your past disorganized actions, and therefore, you must wait with patience, performing your duty to the best of your capacity until all your actions become assimilated into your *Swadharma*.

When you perform your duties in the spirit of Karma Yoga, you begin to advance on the spiritual path even without adopting any rigid spiritual discipline or austerity. You begin to purify your mind and integrate your personality day by day. You promote increasing *Sattwa* (harmony and purity) in your personality. Then when your mind is filled with *Sattwa*, you become a universal benefactor. You live in order to serve God and humanity, and thus, you become most purposeful to yourself and to all mankind.

A Karma Yogi begins to enjoy the expanding horizons of spiritual consciousness. His personality becomes decked with the flowers of divine virtues. His mind has no room for hatred, jealousy, pride, egoism, selfishness or greed. He is able to perform qualitative actions untiringly and without creating any tension in his mind. He enjoys divine inspiration.

The pursuit of *Paradharma*, on the other hand, continues to intensify anger, greed, pride and other mental impurities. It throws one into the widespread snares of *Rajas* and *Tamas* (passion and inertia).

Thus, aspirants must understand the importance of *Swadharma* for their spiritual progress and for the promotion of harmony and peace in the world.

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EXPLOITATION OF Indian Teenage Girls

Newspapers in India publish from time to time reports of Arab men's deceptions in their marriages to Indian Muslim teenagers. The reports describe how rich Arabs use marriage as a disguise to have a good time with poor young teenagers, who are then abandoned, or to convert their victims into slaves.

Bombay and Hyderabad – particularly the latter which has a sizable Muslim population with old Arab links – are the two main centers from which these distressing reports emanate.

Some of the typical cases reported are:

Rameema married to a 70-year-old "rich, issueless widower" who was actually a pauper and who sent her to his son's house in Muscat to work as Khadima (maid servant).

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS PERTURBED

Sheikh Mohammed Salesh Abdullah al-Handan, a 56-year-old Arab who was arrested in Hyderabad for raping his newly-married Indian wife, Chand Bee, 15. The Arab had already three other minor wives, Razia Sultana, 14, Noora, 13, and Sharefa, 14.

The External Affairs Ministry is perturbed by the exploitation of women in the Arab world and has taken many remedial measures. But the problem it faces is that after a female has actually been married to an Arab it cannot refuse her a passport under the Passport Act of 1967.

The External Affairs Ministry, in a note on the subject, contends that the real remedy lies in adopting measures to make a scrutiny of such cases before the marriage is actually solemnized. It is understood to have advised the Home Ministry to ask the states, particularly Andhra Pradesh, to be vigilant.

The note states that Arabs have come to India, particularly Andhra Pradesh, for marriages with young Indian Muslims since pre-Independence days. It cites their historical connections with the former princely State of Nizam. In 1961 the Center learned that some agents were helping Arab nationals in arranging their marriages to young Indian Muslims. Two Kazis, including the Chief Kazi of Bombay, were also reported to be a party to this practice. The question of immoral traffic in Indian women by Arab nationals was also raised in Parliament and in July, 1962, the Ministry of Home Affairs issued strict instructions to Andhra Pradesh to watch the activities of such agents and to check their malpractices.

The Ministry of Home Affairs confirmed in 1976 that there was some truth in the reports that large numbers of Arab nationals, aged 60 to 70, married young Muslims from Hyderabad, according to Muslim Personal Law, and had taken them to Gulf countries with the ultimate aim of selling them to Arab households as domestic servants or to agents. In many cases these women landed in brothels. It was, therefore, decided at the Foreign Minister's level not to issue passports in such cases without prior approval of the Ministry of External Affairs. Subsequently, the position was reviewed and in June, 1977, the Regional Passport Offices at Hyderbad, Madras and Bombay were authorized to issue passports in such cases after due verification of facts from the state police authorities and concerned Indian Missions abroad, and after satisfying themselves that such women were not being cheated by touts or agents in India or by their foreign husbands.

INSTRUCTIONS ISSUED

In April, 1978, instructions were issued to the Indian Missions in Gulf countries to interview Arab husbands personally before attesting the sponsorship declarations filed by them for calling their Indian wives to Gulf countries, and to ascertain and report information on the following points to the PROs concerned:

(1) whether the Arab husband visited India and was personally present at the marriage or whether the marriage was performed by proxy.

(2) the circumstances under which the Indian woman was introduced to the Arab husband or how the Arab husband came to know about the Indian woman;

(3) whether the Arab husband had reasonable financial standing;

(4) his age by appearance and whether he was suffering from any serious disability, mental or physical;

(5) his previous marital status, number of previous living wives he had at present and the number of children living with and dependent upon him from previous marriages; and

(6) if he was able to produce a letter of recommendation or certificate of his bonafide antecedents from any respectable person known to the Mission.

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NARGIS

Farewell To The Woman In White

Nargis is no more. Everyone knew that she was dying, bit by bit, those long seven months at the Sloan-Kettering Institute in New York where she survived seven major surgical operations. The urge to live was great and Nargis fought with every ounce of strenght she possessed. But it was a losing battle with death.

The news of Nargis' death on May 3, 1981 at Breach Candy Hospital at 7.30 A.M. led to a wave of hysteria in public. Nearly the entire film industry, friends, relatives and fans came to have a last glimpse of their beloved lady in white. Dev Anand, Rajendra Kumar, Raj Kapoor, Randhir Kapoor, Rishi Kapoor, Rakhee, Shammi Kapoor, Shashi Kapoor, Reena Roy, Kumar Gaurav, Leena Chandavarkar, Shatrughan Sinha, Vinod Khanna, Rajesh Khanna, Yogita Bali, Sulakshna Pandit, Vijayta Pandit, old timer Nimmi, Lata Mageshkar and Producer O.P. Ralhan were amongst those who attended the funeral.

Glowing tributes were paid to the departed artist by the Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi. She said that Nargis was a person of "extraordinary warmth and sympathy and extended support to numerous social causes. She was a symbol of high talent and dedication to millions who had seen her on the screen".

Nargis was given the prestigious *Urvashi* award by the government for her superb performance in *Raat Aur Din* in 1967.

The little bundle of potential actress introduced by Mehboob Khan as a child artist in *Talaash-E-Haq* was none other than Nargis. In the movie *Taqdeer*, she played against the vetern Hero Motilal. She was 14 years old. In film *Aag* she established herself as a star and rose to dizzy heights of success. *Barsaat*, *Awara* and *Shri 420* where she was heroine drew thrilled audiences. The Raj Kapoor-Nargis pair became a rage in the fifties. She made films with other producers and directors – *Andaz* for Mehboob, *Chori Chori* and *Hulchul* for K. Asif and *Anhonee* for K. Abbas. They made seven great films in fifteen creative years spent together.

Nargis reached the pinnacle of success with the masterpiece movie – *Mother India* which brought her rave reviews, national awards and the *Padma Shri* title from the government. At this stage when her career was at its peak, Nargis gave it up to marry a comparatively unknown film star Sunil Dutt. She returned only once, to fulfill a commitment to complete *Raat Aur Din*, for which she bagged the National Award.

After marriage Nargis revealed more shades of her personality. Besides being superb actress, Nargis proved an ideal housewife as well as a mother. She was Sunil Dutt's answer to domestic bliss. Her extrovert personality and zest for life kept the Dutt household going.

An eminent social worker, Nargis was always willing to support good causes, particularly the handicapped and the downtrodden. She devoted her time doing honorary social work at the school for spastic and mentally retarded children opened by her. Nargis was nominated to the Indian Parliament in recognition of her

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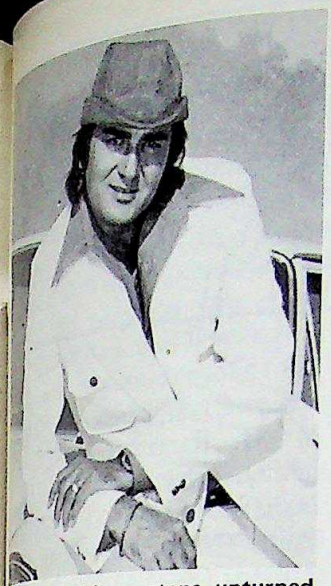

...ected Sunil left no stone unturned ...save a precious life. The inevitable ...ppened and Nargis passed away on ...y 3, 1981.

...ntribution to films and social ...vice. During the span of one ...er there, Nargis made a mark ...th her sincerity of purpose ...d courage of conviction. She ...ought up several problems faced ...y the film industry, expressed ...r views without fear or favour ...d criticised Satyajit Ray whose ...ms concentrated on poverty. ...rgis felt that this spoiled the ...age of India abroad.

...Nargis born Fatima Rashid was ...e daughter of singer Jaddanbai ...d businessman Mohanchand ...hanchand. Born of Muslim-...du parents she imbibed the ...st of both cultures. Nargis was

...rtain graciousness: Nargis and Mrs ...pna Kapoor at the premiere of ...e 420 at Regal.

buried beside her mother according to Muslim rites in accordance with her wishes. Her death provides a rare example of the mingling of the two faiths, evoking the blessings of the one and only Allah. The Dutt household offered Hindu prayers beginning with the daily aarti. On May 9, the Muslim moulvis performed the Quran Shani. The following day Sunil left for Hardwar where the ashes of the dead are immersed. In this case Sunil took a handful of dust from her graveyard which he immersed in the Ganges. Then he went to Kurkheshtra to pray for the departed soul. On the 40th day after the death, prayers were held according to Muslim rites.

Nargis passed away just five days before the release of her son Sunjay Dutt's maiden acting film *Rocky*. But the show must go on. Her family suppressed their anguish and steeled themselves to celebrate the premiere with great pomp in accordance with her wishes. It was a memorable occasion but there was a melancholy air about it.

Sunjay Dutt spells continuity. He received a sickening jolt just after his first venture, but it provides an impetus to keep the torch burning, the torch lighted by the mother he idolised. Nargis is not here in person but her vivacious spirit has been preserved on cellulid, her memory will live on forever in the hearts of a large circle of her admirers throughout the world.

— Anita Jhuremalani

Sunil and Nargis on their wedding anniversary which falls on March 11 — a picture of perfect bliss.

A happy trio — Sunil Dutt, Nargis and Sunjay Dutt at the launching of *Rocky*, in which Sunjay makes his debut to Hindi films.

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From Filmland

HEMA TOPS IN TAX ARREARS

Twenty film artistes and producers, topped by actress Hema Malini, were in tax arrears as on December 31 last. Mr. R. Venkataraman, finance minister, informed the Lok Sabha recently.

Prominent among those who figured in the list are Mr. M. G. Ramachandran, actor and chief minister of Tamil Nadu, actors Rajesh Khanna, Prem Nazir, Dev Anand, Randhir Kapoor, actresses Savithri, J. Jamuna, Yogita Bali and playback singer Lata Mangeshkar.

Actress Hema Malini owes Rs. 26.58 lakhs income-tax and Rs. 5.20 lakhs wealth tax, while Mr. Ramachandran owes Rs. 7.81 lakhs income-tax.

The outstanding dues from Lata Mangeshkar were to the tune of Rs. 9.22 lakhs income-tax and Rs. 0.11 lakh wealth tax.

Following are the details of the income-tax arrears:- Akkineni Nageswara Rao (Rs. 10.42 lakhs), Vijaya Nirmala (Rs. 10.02 lakhs), Rekha Ganeshan (Rs. 9.89 lakhs), M. R. Radha (Rs. 8.58 lakhs), Vijay G. Sippy (Rs. 8.79 lakhs), M. G. Ramachandran (Rs. 7.81 lakhs), Rajesh Khanna (Rs. 7 lakhs), G. Savithri (Rs. 6.94 lakhs). Prem Nazir (Rs. 5.90 lakhs), Jamuna (Rs. 5.42 lakhs), Kamaluddin Kazi (Rs. 5.32 lakhs), Padma Patel (Rs. 4.32 lakhs), Dev Anand (Rs. 4.24 lakhs), Joginder Singh (Rs. 3.40 lakhs), Amrithan (Rs. 2.93 lakhs), Yogita Bali (Rs. 2.84 lakhs) and Sheela Devi (Rs. 2.78 lakhs).

Mr. Venkataraman told Dr. V.K. Pandit in a written reply that arrears to tax due from film artistes in Bombay and Calcutta had come down.

AT TOP – ALWAYS.

Hema Malini

WAITING FOR THE CHELAS?

Johnny Walker (left), Bindiya Goswami, Amitabh Bachchan and Shashi Kapoor in *"Shaan"*. A multi-starrer that was supposed to follow in the successful footsteps of *Sholay*, but something went wrong. The film does not seem to form a cohesive whole, and though the individual sequences have been shot with great attention to detail, the whole film does not jell. The film is directed by Ramesh Sippy.

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TALL SURPRISE

A tall, handsome, debonair man walks into the office of 'The Indian'. "I would like to see the magazine of 'Ten Million Overseas Indians' and perphaps you could make 'Ten Million Plus One' now," he spoke with a mischievous look. "I don't see much *filmi* news in it."

"Its not a film magazine. Why do you want to be a star?"

And he gave yet another of his flamboyant smile and said, "I am."

"Really?" I decided to ask him questions out of the blue with full intention to pull his leg but . . . oh boy, he was serious! Name — Avinash Kumar. Born and brought up in Bombay. Fair, strong, this Tall Surprise was 6"2. He worked as a model in U.S.A., did designing and commercials in Bombay before starting his big break on the Screen.

Not only the 10-million overseas Indians but the million film-fans in India will be seeing Avinash in Madras Production's *Pushkala Commune* which is scheduled to be completed by August. Avinash is also busy shooting in forthcoming ventures of Kailash Pictures and Kantan Mohans.

Girls, cross your hearts — he is single and Avinash (stay humble) 'The Indian' wishes you all the success!

— J.R.

Avinash Kumar

PATEL PLANS OFFICE

Shared Patel is planning to open an office in Los Angeles, California, where he would direct Hollywood films.

Patel, who produced the English feature film, "The Rise and Fall of Idi Amin", on the former Uganda dictator, has been discussing production of a Hindi film with Bombay producers. He has recently been filming in Kenya.

Rekha and Anant Nag in *Mangalsutra:* the eternal triangle in which Rekha and Anant Nag play a happily married couple till the 'ghost' of Prema Narayan comes between them. The same old triangle, modified with a touch of the supernatural.

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FILM FARE AWARDS

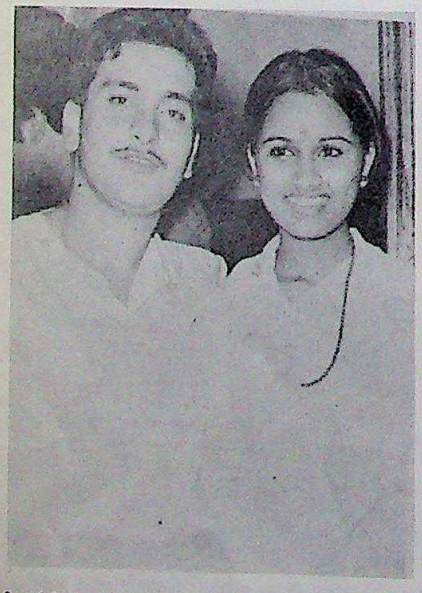
"Khubsoorat", jointly produced by N.C. Sippy and Hrishikesh Mukherjee, has won the best film award in the 28th Annual Filmfare Awards.

Rekha in the same film, playing a sprightly young girl who walks in like a breath of fresh air into the life of a family ruled by a disciplinarian mother, wins the best actress award.

"Aakrosh", that hard-hitting film dealing with the rape and killing of a girl in a tribal village, the framing of her innocent husband for murder and the subsequent efforts of a dedicated young lawyer to defend him wins four awards – best story (Vijay Tendulkar), best supporting actor (Om Puri), best director (Govind Nihalani) and best actor (Naseeruddin Shah).

The best supporting actress award goes to Padmini Kolhapur for her performance in "Insaf ka Tarazu" in the role of a young school girl who falls victim to a sadistic rapist.

Nazia Hassan, the young Pakistani singer settled in London, who sang the popular "Aap jaisa koi" number in "Qurbani", gets the best playback singer (female) award.



A third *filmi babu* for R.K.? Padmini with Chimpu.

Khubsoorat Rekha

The best male playback singer award goes to Kishore Kumar for the "Hazar rahen" song in "Thodisi Bewafii". Gulzar, who wrote this song, gets the best lyricist award.

The best music award is won by Laxmikant-Pyarelal for "Karz".

The best comedian/comedienne award was not given this year.

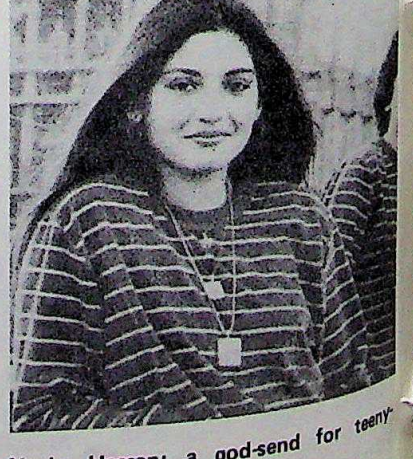
The film "Apne Paraye", directed by Basu Chatterji, has been recommended for a special award.

'POP' CRAZY

Her schoolgirl face shone in every record shop. Her name was splashed on bus hoardings, on banners and fliers. But it was her voice that everyone tuned in to hear. When 17-year-old singing sensation Nazia Hassan's first LP, Disco Deewane, was released recently, it hit gold on the first day, with one lakh copies sold. A few days later sales had jumped to two-and-a-half lakh copies, an absolute blockbuster for HMV, the recording company which called it the "Scoop of 1981".

The record in question is an experiment of sorts. The lyrics are in Hindi, five of which are written by Zoheb, set to western 'pop' tunes, keeping in mind the current disco craze. "It's a combination really . . . western style music with Indian melody, which gives it a very eastern touch," says Zoheb at an interview with the BBC. Biddu of Qurbani and Kung Fu Fighting fame, has composed the music and produced the record.

Even at their early age – Nazia is 17 and Zoheb is 16 – the Hasans are determined to go places. "We would like to be like the Carpenters more than the Osmonds – a brother-sister team. We like to create, write, compose and sing," says Nazia, who decides upon the songs and is obviously the boss. "Zoheb and I don't agree very often . . . we generally do what I say," she adds in between giggles.



Nazia Hassan: a god-send for teeny-bopper music fans.

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TOP INDIAN STARS TO PLAY LEADS IN CANADIAN FILM

wo of India's top movie stars, i Kapoor and Parveen Babi, lay the leads in a Canadian e aimed at lucrative markets dia, Pakistan, Bangladesh and countries where there are East Indian ethnic com-

ities.

he movie, produced by Tyagi s Ltd., a company formed four s ago by a small group of Indians in Metro, will cost 0,000 and involve 45 days of ing in Toronto, Niagara Falls other Canadian locations. Pro-ion starts June 5.

oor Desh – a land too far, is y about the experiences of oronto-born man of Indian , who travels to India to y a woman he never knew.

deals with his young bride's al shock in Canada, emotional ems and jealousy of her hus-, who indulges in Canadian , such as greeting women s with kisses on the cheeks – hing that in India is reserved arried life.

he movie, in Hindi with English les, is a financial success dy.

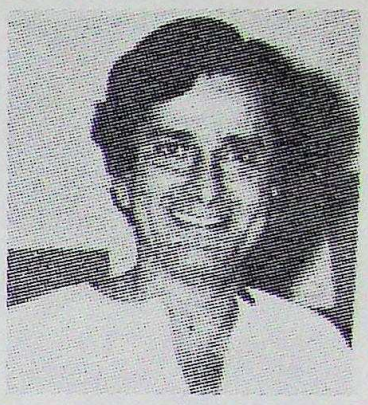
istributors in India, Pakistan, adesh and South Africa have deals with Tyagi Films to it to movie-hungry audiences ose countries.

he movie will be directed by rish Sangal and written by Prakash Sanim, both from a. They were in Toronto ently looking over Canadian ion scenes.

Executive producer, Tyagi Dayal in an interview that, other the stars, writer and director, adians will be hired for the duction.

All camera and laboratory work equipment is Canadian, he said. This is Dayal's second film. In he made *Love in Canada*, ring Shelly Homick, Miss Teen

PARVEEN SHASHI



Leading Pair of *Door Desh*.

Canada 1976, as a Canadian girl who falls in love with an East Indian. The movie was a major hit in Indian movie houses but kissing scenes were deleted by censors in India.

INNOVATIVE STUNT

Whether the idea was Deepti Naval's or from the fertile brain of an ad agency executive, it is innovative to say the least. There's Naval smiling out of a newspaper page inviting the public to give their opinion on her performance in her new film *Chashme Baddoor* which she goes on record to say is one of her best. The film has the merit to draw in the crowds, but, a good publicity stunt gives an added filling of interest.

Deepti Naval.

PERSIS TO MARRY HOLLYWOOD ACTOR

Persis Khambatta, the bald girl of the American movie 'Star Trek'.

Persis Khambatta is going to marry new Hollywood actor *Cliff Taylor* very soon. It was while she was living it up at the opening of Hollywood's hottest club, 'La Club Aux Folles', that she met the young, blue-eyed six-footer from Arizona. Persis confesses mushily, "He stared into my eyes and it was love at first sight! It was like I've always imagined. He is a very beautiful person. We believe in the same things. We are planning a lavish wedding at 'La Cage . . .' in June. I intend calling my mother (from Bombay) for the wedding."

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MUSICAL MOPPET

Giggly and shy, six-year-old Gurpreet Kaur looks like any other kindergarten moppet. But 'Preeti' as she is affectionately called, has a talent that sets her apart. Taking the film industry by surprise, Preeti's voice in playback is scheduled to shake the sound waves in Tarachand Barjatya's lastest venture *Tumbare Bina* – a remake of *Kramer vs Kramer*, which obviously calls for a child artiste, who in true Hindi film tradition will have to sing a couple of songs.

Preeti's singing is no accident. B.S. Gyany, her grandfather was on the music panel of Films Division, Government of India and her father Uttam Singh, is a well-known orchestrator and violinist. Small wonder, then, that the little girl has been singing and learning to play the harmonium almost before she learned to walk.

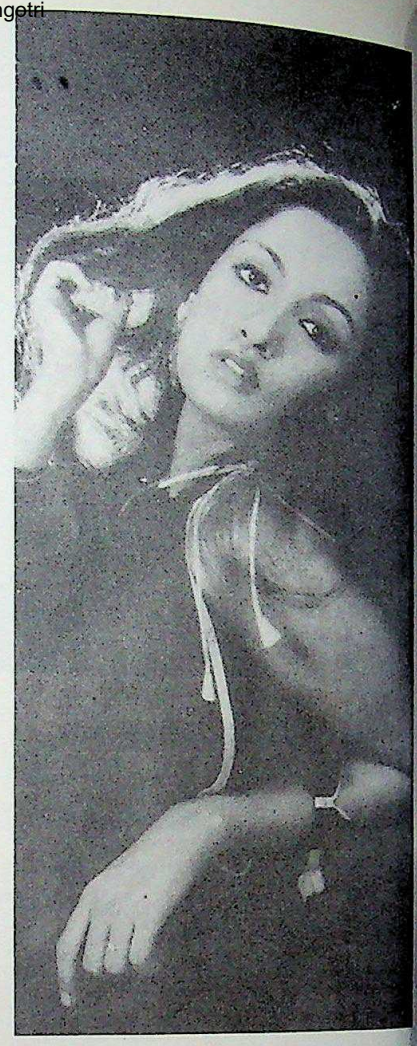
"She's a musical marvel," enthuses Barjatya and Preeti's father intends to keep her that way. Refusing a role in the same film, her father strongly believes that acting would hinder little Preeti's studies. And at this tender age, Preeti is willing to leave all decisions to her father.

With audiences jaded by the middle-aged voices of established singers trying desperately to pass themselves off as any age between eight and 80, Preeti's clear, sweet childish voice will definitely catch everyone's ear.

STARDOM ON A SILVER PLATTER

Swaroop Sampat, 22, is strikingly plain & unusually irreverent (hardly the typical filmi hopeful). Yet, just over a year in the industry, she has two releases to her credit, both of which are linked to big banners. *Nakuhda,* her first film was produced by Yash Chopra & *Naram Garam* her second was directed by Hrishikesh Mukherjee, the man who launched Amitabh, Jaya and a host of others. Coming up are Ramesh Talwar's *Sawaal,* produced once again by Yash Chopra and Tarachand Barjatya's next venture, directed by the highly regarded veteran Satyen Bose. And there are lot of other offers, but Sampat is determined to accept only "the big banners & the best roles". Going by her track record this should not be too difficult. Sampat seems to have been offered stardom on a silver platter. "My father is chief producer for the Indian National Theatre and I have always acted in Gujarati plays so people like Ramesh Talwar had heard of me," she explains, "but the real break was when Yash Chopra saw my picture on a magazine cover. He was looking for a new girl and decided that I was just right." Sampat was, of course, not just any cover girl. She was, after all Miss India 1979, having won the title by unanimous consent.

Swaroop Sampat and Amol Palekar in a scene from *Naram Garam*. A story of a rich widower, his younger brother, their estate manager and the manager's assistant, all succumb to the charms of a lissom young lady. She plays up happily to all of them, but eventually opts for the humble assistant.



Sampat: playing the glamour girl.

TOP TEN HINDI LP'S

1. Disco Deewane
2. Love Story
3. Laawaris
4. M^3
5. Chashme Baddor
6. Biwi-O-Biwi
7. Jyoti
8. Naseeb
9. Gulam Ali – Live in India
10. Talat Aziz – Live

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Tours & Travel

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VAYUDOOT SPREADS WINGS

India's third level airline Vayudoot plans to spread its wings soon. Delhi-Pant Nagar-Dehradun and Delhi-Ludhiana will be added to the schedule, so far confined to North East region.

MORE PLANES

Indian Airlines has signed an agreement with Boeing for the purchase of four additional 737s for delivery in 1982. IA is also likely to order two more Airbuses.

TOURISM FILMS

India will make seven documentary films this year to promote tourism. These are: India Venue for Conventions, Story of Ajanta and Ellora, Story of Golkunda, Story of Fathepur Sikri, Story of Helebid-Belur, Enchanting North East, and Vigyan for Youth.

AI CHARTER SERVICES

India's Tourism Minister Mr. K.P. Sharma recently announced that Air-India will soon start charter services from Germany and France. This and other tourism promotion steps are likely to help double tourism revenues this year.

GITO'S FAR EAST CHIEF

Miss Vatsala Pai is the Government of India Tourist Office's new regional director-Japan and the Far East, based in Tokyo.

Formerly the GITO's deputy director-general in New Delhi, she takes over from Mrs. V. Pandhi, who has been re-assigned to the New Delhi head office as deputy director-general after three years' service in Japan.

Vatsala Pai

Since joining the GITO in Madras 25 Years ago, Miss Pai has been posted in New York World Fair in 1964 and again in that city as regional director for the U.S.A. from April, 1966, to October, 1968.

She was subsequently stationed in Toronto for three years before she became the GITO's director for Canada in 1971. Five years later, she returned to its New Delhi head office as deputy director-general in charge of travel trade and hospitality.

Miss Pai, who holds a Master's degree in political science from Nagpur University, is also a graduate of Madras University.

AIR INDIA TURNS THE CORNER

While the world's airlines continue to financially flounder in what the Director General of IATA has called "the worst year in the history of the world's international airlines", Air India has turned the corner and is now operating at profit. Tough, unremitting efforts to cut losses and improve the Airline's financial viability have finally produced spectacular results, said an Air India spokesman. The spokesman said the last four months of the year 1980-81, a net profit of rupees 1.38 crores (US$1,662,650.00) has been achieved while the previous months of the financial year had resulted in a progressively – decreasing loss. These spectacular results were brought about by Mr. Raghu Raj, a noted management expert who, immediately on taking over as Chairman on April 3, 1980, set about reorienting Air India's marketing strategy.

"Among the measures taken by Air India's management to increase revenue was deployment of additional capacity on routes which would produce remunerative yields, and greater accountability by Air India's seven regions. Expenditure has also been streamlined resulting in a net saving of rupees 26 crores (US$31,325,301.00) last year. Reduction of cabin crew complement on board has alone resulted in an annual saving of rupees 2 crores (US$2,409,638.00)", the spokesman said.

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TOURISM POSTER AWARD FOR HARYANA

The Haryana Tourism Corporation has bagged the second prize in a poster exhibition organised by the Travel Agents of India at Colombo.

The corporation got the award for its poster entitled 'tourism for everyone.'

The tourism minister, Mr A. P. Sharma gave away the awards.

FLYING CLUB TO CLOSE

The Nagpur Flying Club, one of the oldest in India, will close down this month.

Disclosing this, Mr Nisar Hussain, secretary of the club, said financial stringency was the main reason. The state government had ignored requests for financial aid.

HIMALAYAN SHRINES

The Himalayan shrine of Badrinath was opened for pilgrims recently with ceremonial offerings. The other shrines of Kedarnath, Gangotri and Yamunotri have already opened.

AIR INDIA SEATING CAPACITY INCREASED

Air India has made certain alterations in its B-747 aircraft to increase the seating capacity in economy class. Six out of the ten B-747 aircraft in the fleet of Air-India have been modified at a cost of Rs. 105 million.

Thirty economy seats in each aircraft are added as a result of this modification.

CONCESSIONAL DOLLAR FARES

Indian Airlines will offer a 25 per cent discount on its US dollar fares on the domestic sectors as well as on international-cum-domestic sectors for a ship's crew and their families.

The payment will be accepted by the airlines either in US dollars or equivalent convertible currency.

The validity of such tickets will be for 90 days and there will be a free baggage allowance of 30 kgs for all passengers except infants. The application should be made by the Shipping Company or the Captain of the Ship. The concession will be available to bonafide members of the crew and their dependent family members.

With a view to promoting international tourist traffic to India, the airline also offers a Discover India scheme of 15 days for US dollars 375 or any convertible currency. This scheme allows a foreign tourist or Indians resident abroad to travel on the domestic sectors with unlimited stopovers subject to some routing restrictions. The travel is permitted round the year.

Other Indian Airlines travel concessions include a 21-day South India Excursion Fare, Youth Fare and IATA and airline employee discounts. Under the South India Excursion Fare, a 30 per cent rebate on US dollar fares is available for travel between Madras, Tiruchirapalli, Madurai, Trivandrum, Cochin, Coimbatore and Bangalore when combined with India-Sri Lanka and India-Maldives $ fares.

Under the Youth Fare, persons between the ages of 12 and 30 years and residing abroad can avail of a concession of 25 per cent on the normal US dollar fares on all domestic sectors of Indian Airlines if the payment is made in foreign exchange.

For IATA and airline employees, a 50 per cent discount on normal US dollar fares is offered for travel on Indian Airlines domestic sectors.

IMPORT LICENCES FOR TOUR PROMOTION

The Indian government plans to grant licences for import of equipment and other items required for professional use necessary for promotion of tourism. Travel agents will now be granted import licences upto 2.5 per cent of the net foreign exchange earned by them during 1080-81 for tourism, subject to a maximum of Rs. five lakhs. The travel agents have been asked to furnish the list of items they would be interested in importing.

Mr. A.P. Sharma observed that there is great scope for developing tourism in the South Asia region. With its vast coast line, and a long history, it should be possible to attract to India, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bangala Desh and Pakistan, a vast number of tourists. In addition the Island republics of Seychelles, Mauritius and Maldives have a great deal to benefit from this industry. Already much progress has been made. The island republics have jumbo landing facilities and matching hotel accommodation and thus they are all set for a big take off. By a system of mutual cooperation and planned programming of the tourists itinerary, the same tourist could be attracted to visit more than one country in the region, thus spreading the benefits of the efforts of one member country to be availed of by the members in the region, the minister said.

Mr. Sharma exhorted the travel agents and airlines of the region to work out "attractive packages" for tourists visiting the region — which will make it financially more attractive than Europe or America, particularly to the affluent as well as middle class tourists from China, Taiwan, Japan, Korea and Australia.

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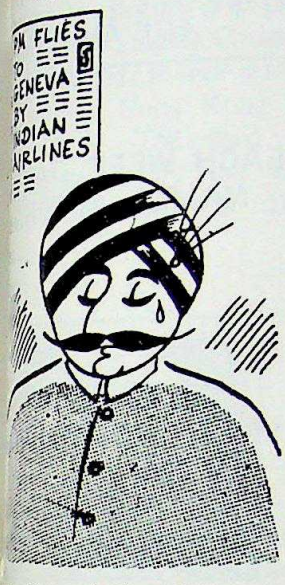
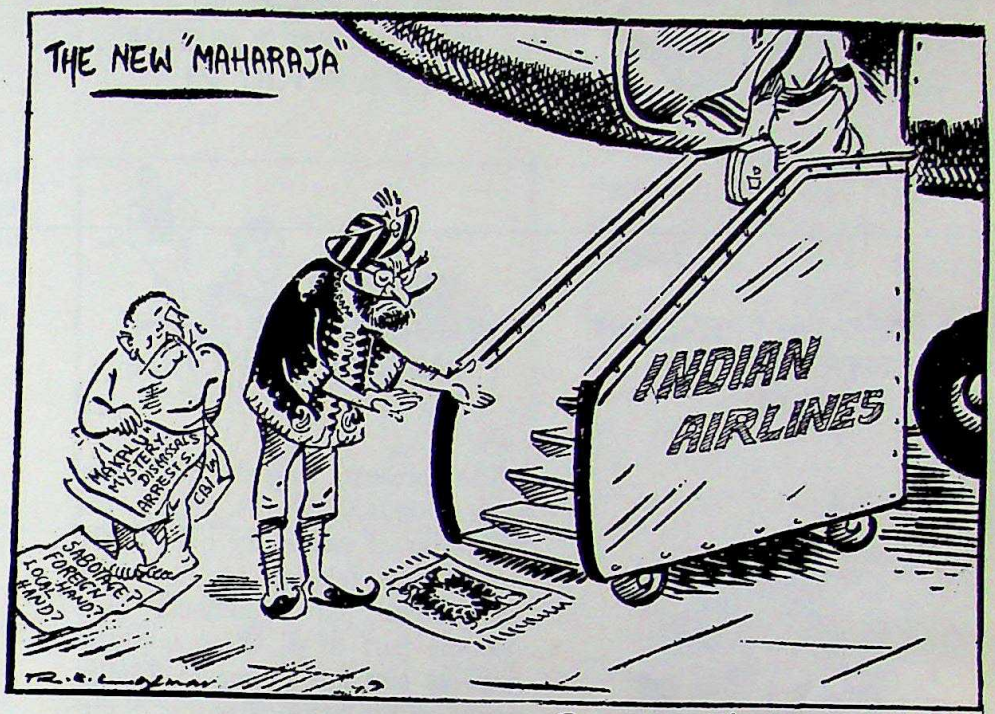
...JECTED MAHARAJA

This is it!

By Sudhir Dar



NEW MAHARAJA



Courtesy: The Times of India

By using an Indian Airlines plane on her current foreign tour, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi has not lost her faith in Air-India. "Certainly not", Mrs. Gandhi told a journalist at her news conference in Geneva when he asked whether she had lost faith Air-India after an alleged bid to sabotage the airlines' Boeing 707, "Makalu".

Mrs. Gandhi said she felt the smaller Indian Airlines Boeing 737 was less tiring as it necessitated stop-overs, "to catch ones breath, so to speak."

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Tell Me Why

FOR CHILDREN

SMALLEST INDEPENDENT COUNTRY IN THE WORLD

The smallest independent country in the world is Vatican City State, which was made an enclave within the city of Rome, Italy on February 11, 1929. The area of the city is 44 hectares (108.7 acres). It has its own railway station opened in November 1932, postal facilities, coins and radio. The Vatican radio station is broadcasting an extensive service in 31 languages from transmitters in the Vatican City and in Italy. The Vatican City has about 1,000 inhabitants.

WHO OWNS ANTARCTICA?

Seven countries – Australia, Argentina, Chile, New Zealand, France, Norway, and Britain have claimed parts of Antarctica, but they have agreed to wait till 1989 before finally deciding on the ownership.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE HAS 300,000 WORDS

At present English has more than 300,000 words. Since the invention of electricity over 4,000 new words relating to electricity and other allied subjects have become part of it. Other arts and sciences also are adding to English many purely technical words. Some old English words are already on their way out and some new words derived from recent inventions have yet to be assimilated by the language.

MAJOR RELIGIONS AND MEMBERSHIP

Christians – 1000 millions (Roman Catholics: 585 millions; Eastern Orthodox: 90 millions; Protestants: 325 millions)
Hindus – 500 millions
Muslims – 500 millions
Confuciaus – 300 millions
Buddhists – 200 millions
Shintoists – 60 millions
Taoists – 30 millions
Jews – 15 millions.

EACH WEEK DAY IS NAMED AFTER?

Day Named after
Sunday – the Sun
Monday – the Moon
Tuesday – Tiu, Norse god of war
Wednesday – Woden, Anglo-Saxon chief of gods
Thursday – Thor, Norse god of thunder
Friday – Frigg, Norse godess
Saturday – Saturn, Roman god of harvests.

DOES THE DOG KNOW THE PROVERB?

A Chinese was worried by a vicious-looking dog.

"Don't be afraid of him", the owner said, "you know the old proverb, a barking dog never bites."

"Yes," replied the Chinese, "you know the proverb, I know the proverb, but does the dog know the proverb?"

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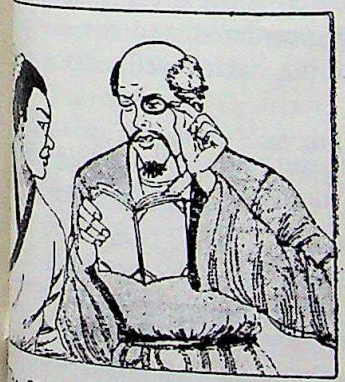
NGEST CHRISTMAS RD IN THE WORLD

1979 the British pop group es got the longest Christmas the world. It was sent by of their Hong Kong fans signed it. The card was y designed by the com- radio station in Hong

HOW MUCH AIR OES A MAN NEED?

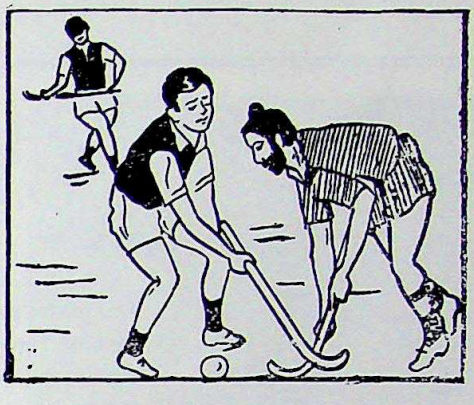
man in sound health breathes times in 24 hours, taking in cubic metres of air. He pro- 2 litres of saliva and 1.14 of perspiration.

WHO INVENTED SPECTACLES?



e Chinese invented and used cles long before they were n to people in other parts of world. The Romans were of their use. Nero, the n Emperor used to wear an ss of beryl. Alessandro de a monk from Florence in and Roger Bacon, an English r constructed eyeglasses in medieval Europe. Benjamin din, the American scientist tatesman invented the bifocal

HOW MANY GOLD MEDALS INDIA WON IN OLYMPICS?



India has so far won 7 gold medals, 1 silver and 2 bronze medals in Olympic Hockey Championships. The Indian Hockey Team won gold medals at Amsterdam (1928), Los Angeles (1932), Berlin (1936), London (1948), Helsinki (1952), Melbourne (1956), and Tokyo (1964). The Team won silver medal at Rome (1960), bronze at Mexico (1968) and Munich (1972) and gold at Moscow (1980).

WHEN A DIPLOMAT SAYS "YES"!

When a diplomat says "yes", he means "perhaps", when he says "perhaps", he means "no", when he says "no", he is no diplomat.

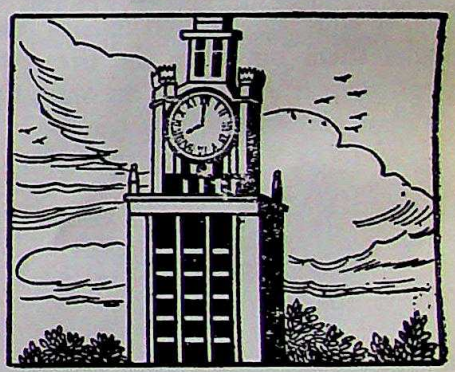
IS TOMATO A FRUIT

The Tomato is a vegetable according to law, but botanically it is a fruit. In 1893 the Supreme Court of U.S.A. in a judgement decided that it was a vegetable.

HOW THEY ANSWER THE TELEPHONE

When Americans answer the telephone, they say, "Hello". Not so in other countries. Germans methodically answer with their last names. Russians say, "I'm listening". The curious French say, "Hello", who's on the line?" Italians greet callers with "Ready", the English answer with their phone number, and the inscrutable Chinese proclaim, "Hey, hey, who are you?".

WHO INVENTED CLOCKS?



Although old writers say that the clock was invented by Pope Sylvester II in A.D. 996, the nature of this clock is not known. It is also recorded by historians that a clock was sent by Haroun a Raschid, Caliph of Baghdad to Charlemagne. The earliest known clocks like the modern ones, with weights, a governing device, and a hand or hands were devised by the monks and used in European cities in the 13th century. A tower of Westminster Abbey in London had a clock in 1288.

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Grandma's Cookery

AAM MURABBA

Ingredients:

500 grams mangoes
75 grams raisins
½ cup vinegar
500 grams sugar
2 or 3 red chillis
Water

Method:

Peel the mangoes and cut them into small pieces. Boil the pieces in water for 5 minutes and then strain. Prepare syrup by adding water to 500 grams sugar. When sugar is completely dissolved, add boiled mango pieces, raisins and chillis to it. When syrup and the mango pieces thicken fairly well, take them out from the fire. After half an hour, add vinegar and shake the mixture well. Store it in a clean glass or porcelain vessel.

MANGO JELLY

Ingredients:

500 grams mangoes
2 tbsp. chilli powder
½ tsp. salt
750 grams sugar
1 tsp. cardamom and clove powder
75 grams raisins, or less

Method:

Peel and grate the managoes. Add a cup of water to the managoes and boil for a few minutes. Strain the water and take out the extra water by pressing the pulp. Then add sugar, ginger, raisins, salt and the remaining ingredients and boil on a slow fire till the syrup is thick.

MANGO CAKE

Ingredients:

120 grams self-raising flour
Pulp of 1 mango
1 piece cinammon
½ tsp. caraway seeds
1 tbsp. chopped mixed candied peel
120 grams sugar
3 cloves
3-4 pods cardamom
2 doz. raisins
1 tbsp. butter
½ cup warm milk

Method:

Mix sugar and mango pulp till the sugar dissolves. Add the flour gradually and mix well. Then add all the other ingredients. Cloves, cardamoms and cinnamon should be powdered and the candied peel chopped fine. Mix the batter well, adding milk and melted butter.

Butter a baking tin and pour in the mixture, it should be full. Bake in a moderate oven till the cake is well browned.

MANGO ICE CREAM

Ingredients:

2 kg. milk
2 large mangoes
500 grams sugar
Cook the milk and sugar on the fire till it is thick—half its original quantity

Method:

Peel the mangoes and pulp the flesh. Blend into milk and freeze in freezer trays or prepare in rotary hand ice-cream machine till set.

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MEHTA, SHANKAR PERFORM

Two Asian Indians, one from Bombay and the other from Varanasi, both revered and honored for their musical genius, came together recently to show musicians everywhere that bridges can be built between eastern and western hemispheres.

Zubin Mehta and Ravi Shanker joined hands at New York City's Carnegie Fisher Hall, Lincoln Center, to disprove Rudyard Kipling's dictum: "Oh, East is East, and West is West, and never the twain shall meet..."

With Mehta conducting the New York Philharmonic Orchestra and Shankar providing the lead on his own legendary Sitar the two strung their way through Raga-Mala, Concerto No. 2 for Sitar and Orchestra. The concerto, Shankar's second in 10 years, has been described by the maestro himself as "a blend of ragas." While most western concertos are in three movements, Shankar's composition has four.

The first movement hinged on the early morning raga lalit, while the second consisted of five other ragas. Three evening ragas made up the third movement while the fourth comprised 21 ragas, some short and others long.

Raga-Mala, which is said to be dedicated to Mehta, was begun in 1979 and completed the following year. Months of rehearsing and individual familiarization efforts by Shankar and members of the orchestra, resulted in a standing ovation for the final presentation.

Zubin Mehta, left, and Ravi Shankar.

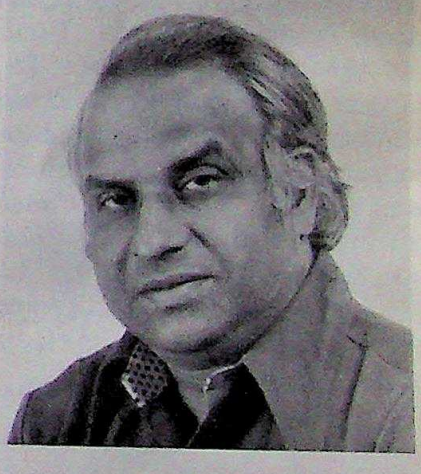
Mehta is in his third season as Music Director of the New York Philharmonic. Shankar made his debut with the orchestra.

AIA CITES SIDDIQUI, TWO OTHERS, FOR 1981 AWARDS

Distinguished Indian medical scientist Dr. Wasim A. Siddiqui was among three 1981 awardees honored recently by the Association of Indians in America (AIA).

Recognized for his malaria-vaccine breakthroughs and other research achievements, Siddiqui, of Honolulu, accepted the award at the AIA's Annual Honor Awards Banquet held May 16 in New York City.

Also cited with Siddiqui were Dr. Kundan S. Singwi, noted Indian astrophysicist of Northwestern University in Illinois, and Prof. Lawrence R. Klein, leading American economist of the University of Pennsylvania. All three recipients were on hand for the occasion.



Dr. Wasim A. Siddiqui, medical scientist of Univ. of Hawaii School of Medicine, Honolulu.

Presenting the awards was H.E., K.R. Narayanan, Ambassador of India to the United States. Also slated for participation was Amb. N. Krishnan, Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations, but he was called away at the last minute for more pressing business. Attending, however, was a large field of India's diplomatic

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corps presently on assignment in the U.S.

Staged at New York's Roosevelt Hotel, the evening gala drew a capacity attendance of some several hundred invited guests from across the country. There was also wide TV and news-media coverage by both the American and Indian press. AIA national council chairman, Dr. Rajendra Prasad of California, served as Master of Ceremonies.

Long established as one of the largest, most active and influential of any Indian organization in America, the AIA originated the annual honor awards back in 1973. They are said to be designed as individual tributes "for unique contributions to arts and letters and greater understanding between the peoples of India and America". National president of the organization is Dr. Dattatraya G. Lanjewar, long a leading Indian activist and organizer in the U.S.

To date, the AIA has recognized some 40 awardees, both Indians and Americans alike, who have contributed in some way to Indo-American relations. Past recipients include Pandit Ravi Shankar, Ustad Ali Akbar Khan, the late Dr. Margaret Mead, Maestros Zubin Mehta and Yehudi Menuhin, editor Norman Cousins, the late humanitarian Welthy Fisher, celebrated writers Raja Rao, Santha Rama Rau and Ved Mehta, scholar and Indologist Stella Kramrisch, and others well-known both in India and America.

— C.K. Sharma

FOR LOVE OR THE CARD?

Whether or not you have a green card, you are still eligible to see *The Green Card*, a three-act comedy by the Indo-Pak Art Circle.

The play, according to Producer Manzur Husain was well received by audiences in Washington, D.C. and Virginia.

Pushpa Agnihotri and Javed Iqbal in a scene from 'The Green Card.'

The Green Card is about a girl (Farhat) and her aunt (Pushpa Agnihotri) who live together in a townhouse and take in paying guests to cut their expenses.

A young student (Ali Hasan), living in the house, becomes romantically involved with Farhat. Another paying guest, a middle-aged man (Javed Iqbal), gets interested in the aunt.

However, they are not motivated by love but a desire to get a green card.

To complicate matters, the middle-aged gent introduces his son (Noor Naghmi) to the girl, hoping she will find him more attractive than the student.

The result of all this is very funny moments, mixed with a serious underlying theme, according to Husain.

They play is also about getting used to the American culture and having to shed many old habits.

The characters are not localized. They are not Hindus or Pakistanis but are south Asians. And the language of the play is one that will appeal to Hindus and Pakistanis alike – Hindi and Urdu.

FILM FETE SLATED IN NYC

Film India, a program of Indian films, will be presented at the Roy and Niuta Titus Auditorium of the Museum of Modern Art in New York City from June 25 to October 15.

Approximately 60 films will be shown, covering the history of Indian cinema from the silent period to modern times. The films will be divided into three parts. The first part will be a retrospective of Satyajit Ray's works. The second part consists of 20 films, surveying the evolution of major trends in Indian cinema, while the third will cover contemporary films, including those made in the last two decades.

Screenings will be held every day except Wednesday and are open to the public. The presentation will be made jointly by the Asia Society of New York, the Museum of Modern Art and the Directorate of Film Festivals, Government of India.

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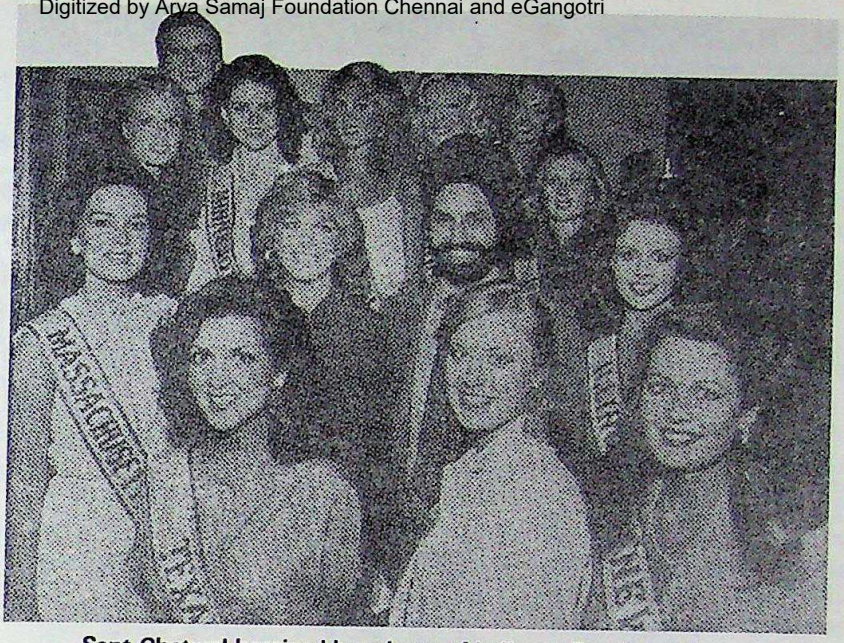
AUTIFUL SURPRISE

t Chhatwal, the owner of the y Palace restaurant in new didn't quite believe what was ning to him.

ently he was attending to his and responsibilities of ing his busy mid-Manhattan ant when 13 beautiful walked in and began the place. Before he it, he was surrounded by all friendly females.

ually, the women were semi-s in the Miss USA Beauty t. They were touring points erest in new York City, when must have become enticed e aroma of Indian food and into the Bombay Palace.

ging from all the wide Chhatwal must have given new female friends quite lunch.



Sant Chatwal beseiged by a bevy of belles at Bombay Palace.

INDIA TAKES PART IN L.A. FAIR

dia was an active participant e 55th annual Southern rnia World Trade Week held 17 through 23 at the ABC tainment Center in Century and other locations in the er Los Angeles Area.

mong the Indian groups par-ing in the event were the Los les branch of the Engineering rt Promotion Council of India C), the government of India ist Office, Los Angeles, Air- and the India-America Cham- of Commerce.

According to Santosh Misra, ty Regional Manager of the C in the west coast, the pur- of participating was "to arize the international com-ity in America with India, ive publicity to what India ufactures and produces and it has to offer in these areas the tourist trade."

Southern California: Gateway to World trade," was the theme of this year's event. The Opening reception, sponsored by Century City Chamber of Commerce May 18, was marked by an Indian theme. Guests were greeted with the Indian "tika", and Indian hors d'ouevres, catered by the Moghul Restaurant of Beverly Hills.

KRISHNA DEVOTEES WIN SUIT

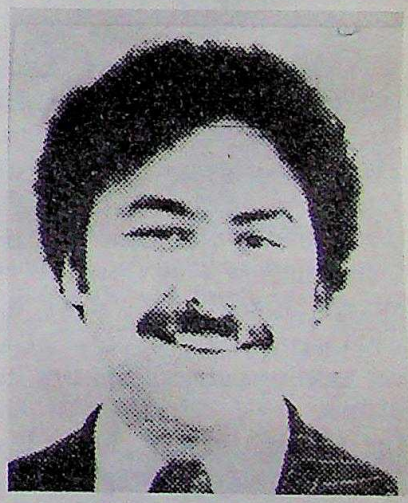
A court decision in Syracuse, New York, last week declared that Krishna devotees have the right to be in any public place and collect alms, a spokesman for the International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON) side.

A Syracuse judge had earlier issued a ruling that barred Hare Krishna followers from using the upstate fairgrounds to solicit money and new members. He had categorized ISKCON as a business – since it collected money – that must comply with the rules for obtaining a booth at the fair.

A Second Circuit Court of Appeals judge, however, ruled that the Hare Krishna movement was a bona-fide religion and was protected by the First Amendment.

HUSAIN ELECTED TO COUNCIL

Faizi Faz Husain, operator of a pizza parlor, was recently elected a member of the City Council of Ypsilanti, Michigan. Husain is the first Asian Indian to hold a seat on a city council in the state.



Faizi Faz Husain

Born in Patna, Bihar, Husain has lived with his family in the city for the past 14 years. A Democrat, he has been involved for the past few years in public service.

Husain, now an American citizen, is the gradson of a former Member of Parliament in India, Tajamul Husain.

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GURU RAJNEESH COMES TO U.S.

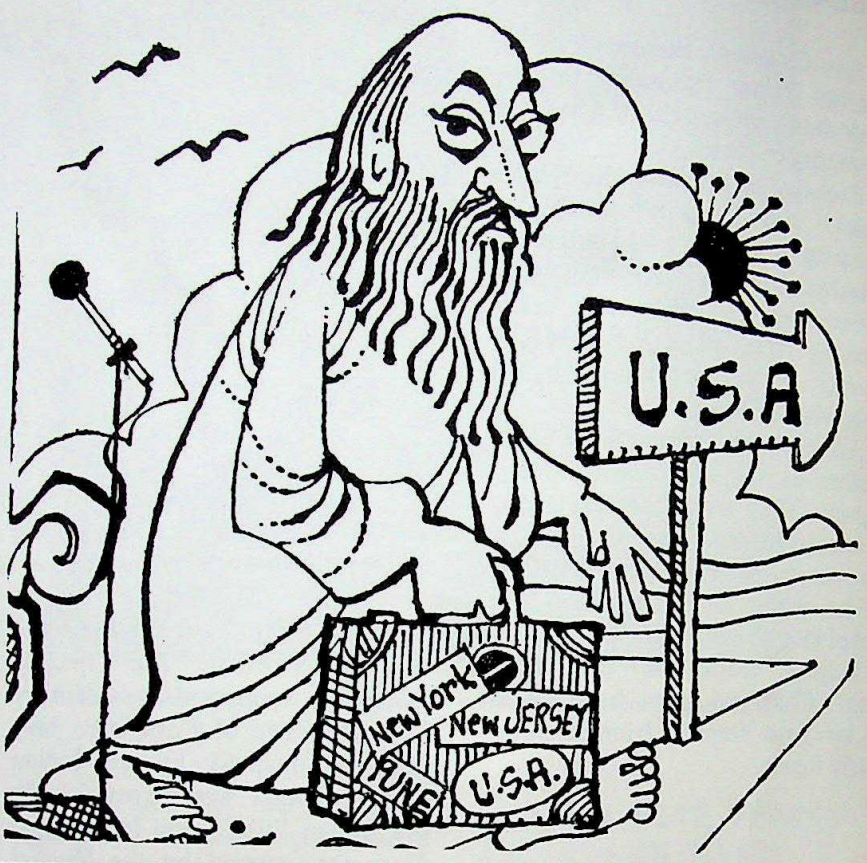
Controversial Indian Guru Acharya Rajneesh has arrived in the United States for treatment of a back ailment and is now "traveling somewhere in the U.S.," according to Swami Shakyamuni of the Rajneesh Center in Montclair, New Jersey.

Shakyamuni said he had no information as to where or when Rajneesh arrived or how long his treatment would take. He said that the secrecy surrounding the visit was necessary because of his health. He added: "To come so far required a great deal of care."

There has been speculation in India surrounding Rajneesh's visit. The Rajneesh ashram in Pune is keeping silent about his reasons for coming here.

According to Indian newspapers, Rajneesh left for the U.S. with 28 disciples, most of them foreigners. His treatment in the U.S., newspapers reported, will take a long time, but activities at the ashram in India will go on as usual.

FROM GURU TO GOD



COLUMBUS MAYOR PRAISES INDIANS

The Mayor of Columbus, Ohio, Tom Moody, has described Indians as "responsible citizens" who are making a useful contribution to education and science, according to a press release from the Indian Consulate in New York City.

Moody offered these views to Consul-General P.P. D'Souza, at a recent meeting between the two in Columbus.

The Mayor said that during his 20 years of association with the criminal justice system in Ohio, as a Councilman, Judge and Mayor, he had never once encountered an Indian citizen in difficulty with the law.

Moody told D'Souza he expected an Indian delegation to attend the 25th World Congress of the International Union of Local Authorities, scheduled to be held June 21 onwards in Columbus.

According to the release, Professor Rajadhyaksha, Director General of the Institute of Local Self Government in Bombay and Dr. D.P. Singh, Director of the Institute of Public Administration, Lucknow, will comprise the Indian delegation.

NEW YORK 'KEY' FOR TERESA

Mother Teresa accepted the key to the city of New York and said, "Let us use it to open the hearts of people."

The diminutive 70-year-old nun, who had just come from a visit to her orders shelter for the poor in the South Bronx district, said the poor of the world are not dying for a piece of bread. But are "dying of sheer loneliness", which she called a "very, very grave poverty."

She was presented with the key by Mayor Edward Koch who called her a "remarkable and devoted woman" of "selfless dedication".

"They too are the children, of Gold, Just like us", she said referring to the world's poor. "They are our brothers and sisters."

Mother Teresa was in the United States to open several homes for the poor around the country, two of them in Washington.

ICCA TO HOST SEMINAR

The India Chamber of Commerce of America has announced that it will hold an all-day seminar on Indo-U.S. Business Opportunities in the Eighties, June 25 at New York City's Plaza Hotel on Central Park South.

According to a press release, the meeting is expected to bring together more than 30 senior business leaders from India and 150

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in the United States who to study economic and mercial relations with India. sistant Secretary of Com- for Trade Development Morris will be the key- peaker. The seminar is expec- be opened by a Department e representative, while India's ssador to the U.S., Kocheril Narayanan, will make the ding remarks.

FREEMAN TO SPEAK

er speakers will include: L. Freeman, former Secre- f Agriculture and Chairman e U.S. section, Indo-U.S. Business Council, Arvind ai, President of the Federa- f Indian Chamber of Com- and Industries, and Dr. Bharat Chairman of the Indian n of the Indo-U.S. Joint ess Council. The seminar is nsored by the Indo-U.S. ess Council.

DIAN BUSINESS FIRMS IN N.Y. CITED IN 'SONAM' SUIT

med in a large legal suit filed ny Corporation's subsidiary in ica (SONAM) in May were New York-based Indian busi- s. Implicated were India Sari e, Sona Import & Export, Renam Trading Company, with some 88 other corporate dants.

The SONAM charges stem from ations by Japan's Sony Corp. the subject firms tampered counterfeited, and/or mis- sented the sale and distribu- of Sony-brand cassette tapes an illegal basis in the United s. Charges of false advertising counterfeiting, resulting in and inordinate misprofits, und the multiple-count allega- s.

Pending investigation of the charges by U.S. authorities, a SONAM-filed petition was entered in New York's U.S. District Court for the discontinuation of further importing, advertising, or sale of Sony-label tapes by the outfits named. Altogether, some 90-plus New York-operated firms are involved.

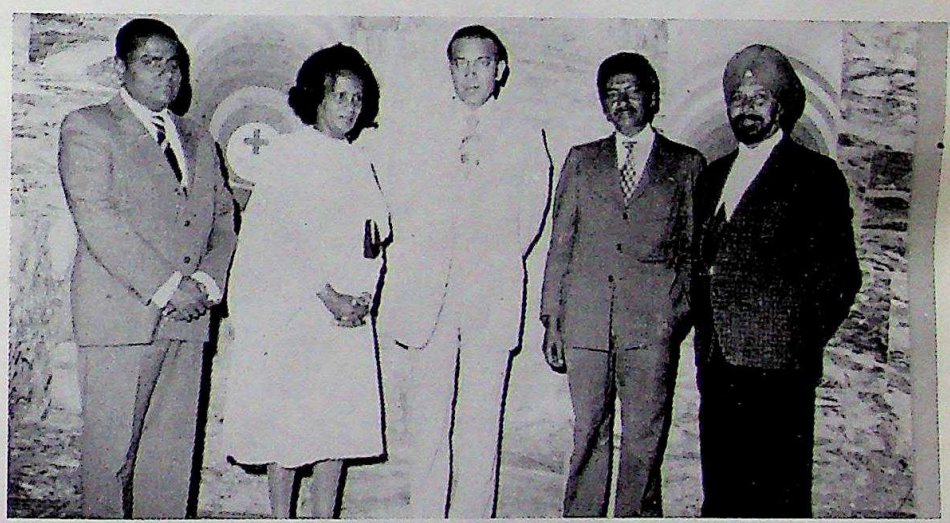
The overall suit alleges that, under the Sony brand-name, non-Sony replacement tapes manufactured in Hong Kong and Singapore were substituted, illegally. The phoney replacement tapes, said to be of inferior quality, were cited as counterfeits unequal in comparison, obtained at cheaper off-market prices and in bulk quantity. The Sony trade name is alleged to have been affixed to these non-Sony products, an activity charged as widespread in international counterfeited-marketing practices.

Custom officials worldwide, and particularly in the U.S., are now said to be well-briefed on what to look for an detecting and confiscating such trade name misnomers. Port of entry officials have also been alerted to investigate questionable shipments that might involve such counterfeited goods.

Meanwhile, no hearing dates have been set yet in the SONAM suit, which is expected to carry over into months of litigation once the charges are answered by all 90-odd firms involved.

— C. K. Sharma

ETHIOPIA



The Ethiopian Red Cross Society recently gave public honour to the leading Indian social worker and businessman Mr. Hasmukhlal Karamchand Sheth, for his continous blood donation for the past eleven years to the Ethiopian Red Cross Society. Mr. Sheth is pictured above (left) with Sister Mehret Kena, acting President of the ERCS, Indian Ambassador Mr. Prem Budhwar, Mr. Ato Mesfin Bellete, Hon. Treasurer of the Society and Indian First Secretary Mr. B.P. Singh.

Gujerati ladies of Addis Ababa performed 'Ras' holi dance for the Ethiopian Red Cross Society on the International Red Cross Day.

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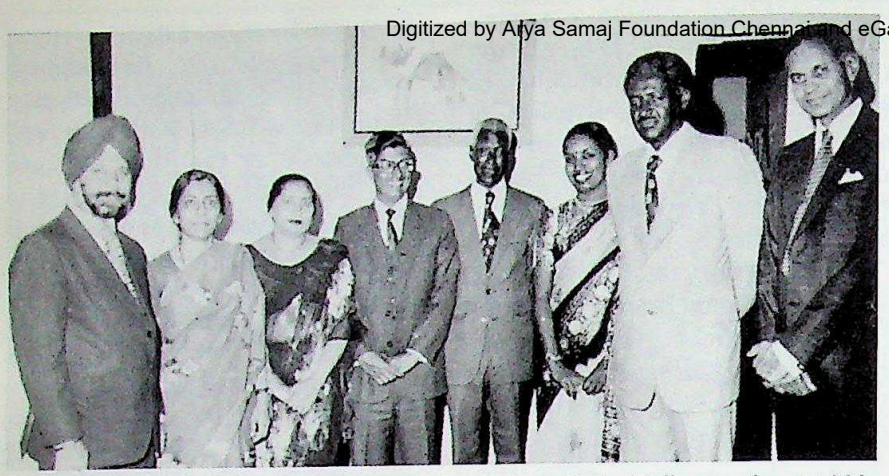
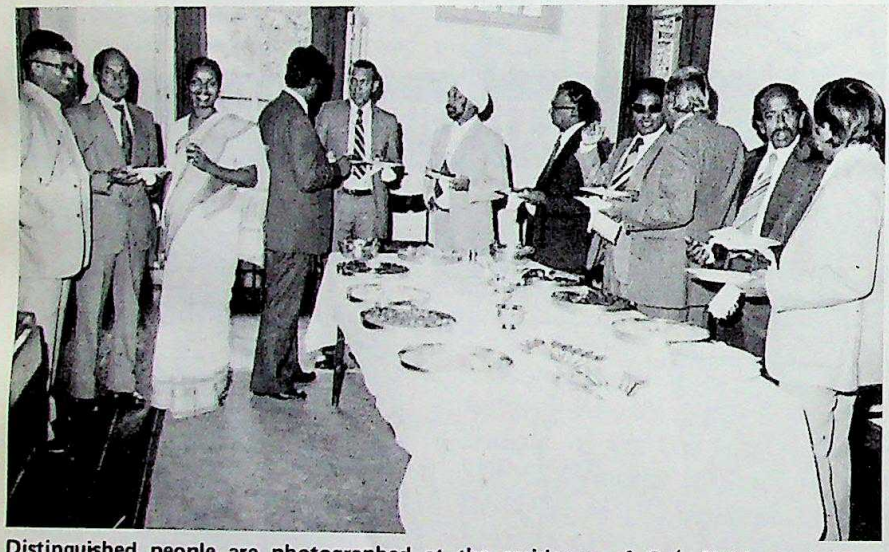


Mr. B.P. Singh, First Secretary Indian Embassy, hosted Cocktail reception to bid farewell to Col. Dev Dutt and to extend welcome to Col. Naidu, Military Attache in the Indian Embassy. Picture shows from left: Mr. B.P. Singh, Mrs. Mohini Dutt, Mrs. Singh, Col. Naidu, Brig. Gen. Kefelegn Yibza, Eithiopian Ground Force Commander, Mrs. Naidu, Brig. Gen. Fanta Belay Chief of the Ethiopian Air-Force and Col. Dev Dutt.

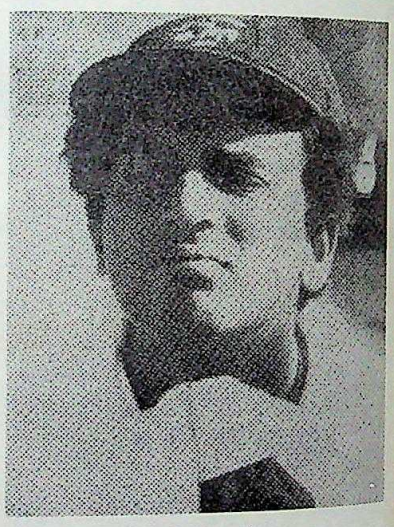


Distinguished people are photographed at the residence of Col. Naidu and Mrs. Naidu where a lucheon was hosted in honour of the Joint Secretary of the Indian Ministry of Commerce.

Mrs. Usha Naidu, Mrs. Madhu Shah, Mrs. Kusum Budhwar, Indian Ambassador Mr. P.K. Budhwar, Joint Secretary in the Indian Ministry of Commerce Mr. K. Prakash Anand, Col. Naidu, Mrs. Pramila Desai, Mrs. Deni Dingliana and Mrs. B.P. Singh are photographed at the reception hosted by the Indian Ambassador in honour of the Joint Secretary.

GAVASKAR EYES UAE TOUR

Indian cricket captain Sunil Gavaskar will lead a team to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) next year to play three one-day international matches against a Pakistan team.



Sunil Gavaskar

The matches have been organized by the Cricketers Benefit Fund Series of the UAE. Last April, the CBFS held an exhibition match at Sharjah by Indian and Pakistani cricketers.

During next year's tour, Gavaskar probably will be honored by the CBFS along with two other prominent cricketers from the Indian subcontinent, according to Gulf News.

During the April exhibition match, CBFS paid $25,000 to former Indian Test player Madhav Mantri. The victorious team led by Pakistan's Javed Miandad received an equal amount. CBFS also distributed $40,000 among the members of the two teams.

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PM'S VISIT STRENGHTENS RELATIONS

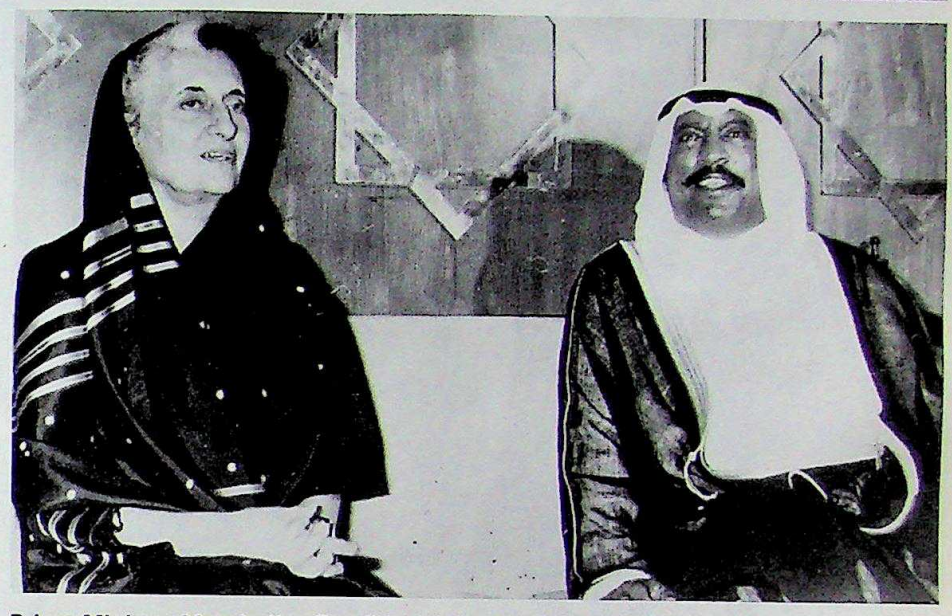
e Indian Prime Minister, Mrs. Gandhi, paid a two-day l visit to Kuwait from May 11, 1981. It was the first visit by an Indian Prime er to the Gulf.

e was extended an ethusiastic me on her arrival by her host Prime Minister of Kuwait and n Prince Shaikh Saad Abdallah ah, his Cabinet colleagues a large Indian Community lined up both sides of the road the Airport in thousands.

l Arabic and English daily papers of Kuwait brought out l supplements to mark the ic visit and to underline the ries old ties between India Kuwait. A leading Arab com-ntor, owner of the daily Al-n, Mr. Mosaid Saleh, in his e-up greeting to Mrs. Gandhi, lled the days when Kuwaitis to sail to the Indian shores arch of food due to the famine tions back home, and said India and the Indian people art of Kuwait's folk-lore. He mended the Indian community being the most law-abiding gn community residing in it.

KUWAIT TO BACK PROJECT

Kuwait and India entered into agreement in which the Gulf ghdom would provide a loan 362.5 million for the Ampara er project in Uttar Pradesh. addition, Kuwait government ials said that they were con-ring the possibilities of extend-



Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi with her host Kuwaiti Prime Minister and Crown Prince Shaikh Saad Abdallah Al-Sabah on her arrival at the Kuwait Airport.

Photo: Mohd. Bedag

Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi being greeted by the children of the New Indian School in Kuwait on her arrival.

Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi being offered a traditional welcome by a group of Indian girls at the Hilton Hotel in Kuwait where she was given a grand Reception by the Indian community. She is flanked on left by Indian Ambassador S.J.S. Chhatwal.

Photo: Abdul Hameed

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Tamil Foundation, Chennai and eGangotri

Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi with Shaikha Latiffa wife of the Prime Minister and Crown Prince Shaikh Saad Abdallah Al–Sabah at Kuwait Towers restaurant where the latter had arranged a dinner reception in honour of Mrs. Gandhi.

ing more financial aid for various projects in India.

Kuwait's loan for the Ampara project has to be repaid in 25 years with a grace period of five years. India will pay three-and-a-half per cent interest on the loan, and an additional one-half of one per cent for administrative expenses.

The agreement was signed by Kuwait's Finance Minister Sayeed Abdelatif al-Hamad and the Indian Ambassador S.J.S. Chatwal. The pact is between the government of India and the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development.

ECONOMIC PANEL FORMED

The Ampara project, which is expected to be completed by the end of 1984, will provide power for rural electrification and pumping stations in Uttar Pradesh.

Kuwait has also hinted that it may finance the Thal-Vaishet fertilizer project in Maharashtra. The fertilizer project has been bogged down in uncertainty ever since the World Bank cancelled a $250 million loan last year.

During Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi's visit, Indian and Kuwait government officials agreed to set up a Joint Economic Commission, which is likely to convene soon.

More significantly, Kuwait has given assurances that they would discuss the details and the mode of payment of foreign exchange for the Thal-Vaishet project with Indian government officials.

SRI LANKA

LANKAN REPATRIATION SNAGGED

Stateless persons of Indian origin in Sri Lanka who have so far not been repatriated to India are living in a twilight zone of hope and uncertainty.

Under a 1964 agreement between Lal Bahadur Shastri and Mrs. Sirimavo R.D. Bandaranaike, the then Prime Ministers of India and Sri Lanka, respectively, the problems of persons of Indian origin in Sri Lanka were to be resolved in 15 years.

But both the rate of repatriation of stateless persons and the granting of Sri Lanka citizenship to an agreed number was slow. Result: the problem has almost the same dimensions now as in 1964.

GOALS NOT MET

The 1964 agreement envisaged that out of 975,000 persons of Indian origin in Sri Lanka 525,000 such persons, together with the natural increase in that number, would be accepted as Indian citizens and repatriated to India.

The latest figures compiled by New Delhi of persons of Indian

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still rendered stateless in Sri
show between 600,000 to
0 in this category. As of
31, 1980, the number
ted to India was 256,299
hose granted Shinhalese
ship was 146,422.
Delhi has not yet made any
approach to Colombo on
lateral problem as a lot of
ing on the subject is going
ri Lanka.
President of Sri Lanka has
ed a committee, headed by
Thondaman of the Ministry
al Development, to re-
e the whole question. Pro-
under consideration of the
ittee include linking the grant
Lankan citizenship to the
of Indian citizenship in the
ratio of 7 to 4. At present,
nt of Sri Lanka citizenship
d to actual repatriation to
and this has inevitably
in delays. Persons granted
citizenship would be per-
to stay and work in Sri
till they retire. Another
al is for Sri Lanka to invite
pplications from all stateless
and to register all those
pply as Sri Lankan citizens,
the remainder being granted
citizenship. If this is
d the 1964 and 1974
ents would become redun-

PACT REVIEWED

working of the 1964 Agree-
was reviewed during a visit
Foreign Minister of Sri
to India in 1978 and also by
working group of officials
two countries. The annual
repatriation agreed to during
discussions was 35,000. How-
New Delhi has not even been
to fulfill this annual target
to the reluctance of persons
repatriated to India at this
rewhen there is a likelihood
eir being permitted to stay
Sri Lanka.
ew Delhi is waiting for the
tive to come from Colombo.

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MAURITIUS

GOVERNOR – PROFESSOR MEET

His Excellency Prof. Saran Upadhyaya talking to the Governor General of Mauritius, Sir D. Burrenchobay at the latter's residence.

LADIES' CHAT

Shrimati Devika Upadyaya with Lady Burrenchobay.

Mr. Vasant Sathe, India's Information Minister, pose for a souvenir photo at the Plaisance Airport with members of the South Indian Film Festival held in Mauritius recently.

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"SWARMA CHACKRA" DISCS FOR THE HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA

The Minister of Education and Cultural Affairs, Sir Kher Jagatsingh handed over forty discs of "Swarma Chakra", popular bhojpuri songs of Mauritius to Mr. Prem Singh, First Secretary of the Indian High Commission.

At the ceremony, an example of significative cooperation on bilateral plans was reflected. The Government of India put musicians at the disposal of local authorities, who with their collaboration, realised these records. Mr. Prem Singh indicated that these bhojpuri discs will be sent to different countries particularly Fiji Islands, Guyana, Trinidad and Tobago. There is also a chance that these songs be passed on the air of All India Radio. The Government of India had contributed to a sum of Rs. 2000/- for the realisation of these records.

RAMANAND SAGAR VISITS MAURITIUS

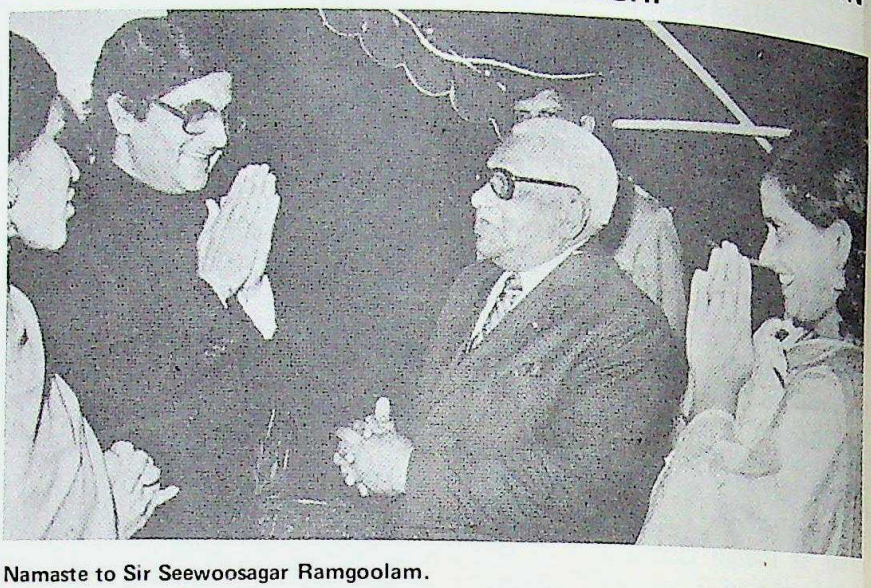
Sagar, famous Indian writer, producer and director was in Mauritius recently. his visit though a brief one was a success as he himself said.

The purpose of Mr Sagar's visit was to find location sites for the shooting of his next film "Romance" starring Poonam Dhillon and Kumar Gaurav. He visited different parts of the island, but he specified that nothing has been decided yet.

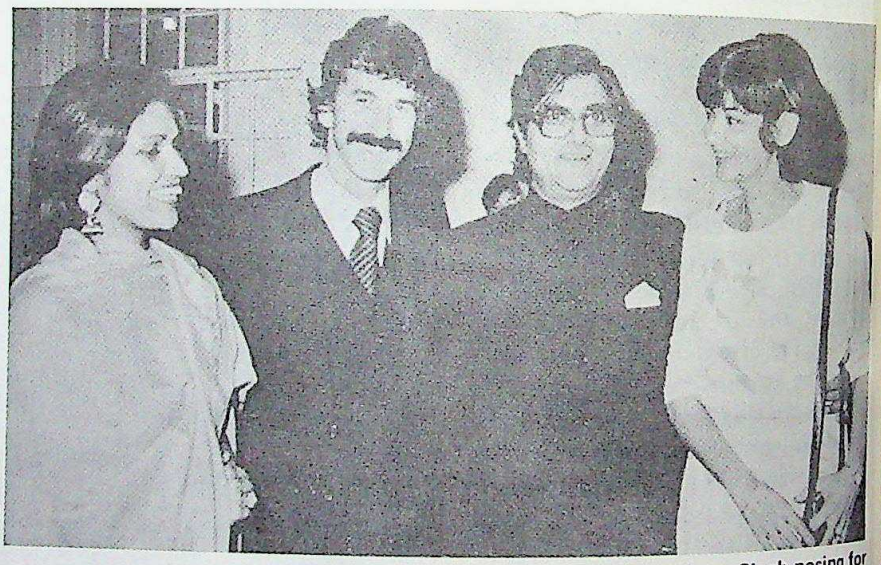
At a press gathering in the offices of FILMCO, the Indian filmmaker took advantage of the meeting to talk about the world of Cinema. He estimated the cost of a film to be about Rs 1.5 to Rs 15 millions.

During his visit, Mr Sagar met the Prime Minister and other notable personalities. He was also interviewed on the MBC Television by Bhoomitra Sharma Ayrga.

FAREWELL PARTY AT INDIA HOUSE, VACOAS IN HONOUR OF MR. & MRS. PREM SINGH.



Namaste to Sir Seewoosagar Ramgoolam.



Mr. Paul Berenger, MLA and wife together with Mr. and Mrs. Prem Singh posing for a Souvenir-photo.

Mr. Prem Singh in company of Mr. Berenger; Sir D. Burrenchobay, Governor General of Mauritius and Mr. Ibrahim-Al-Jaddy, Secretary of the Jamahirya Libyan Arab Socialist Republic's Popular Bureau.

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Ramanand Sagar hopes to with a load of film materials tists for the shooting of his ence".

RELIGIOUS MUSIC

"Ramananjali Group of " an orchestra of religious and songs attached to Maharisi Ashram of na-malai, in Tamil Nadu touring Mauritius this

musical group composed zen artists will give its show Port Louis municipal , at Moorghen Temple at Hill and at Kaliamen Hall,

as been said that the group a good musical level while musical instruments like sitar, mridangam, violin, and guitar.

Ramananjali group of have given shows in Europe, ica, Japan, Hong Kong, ia and Singapore.

Mr. Sagar with Mr. Mohit at the Press Gathering.

The Ramanajali Group.

SINGAPORE

& Mrs. C.V. Parsram recently hosted ner in honour of Mr. & Mrs. Prakash ewakramani of Dubai, Mr. & Mrs. Ram of Djakarta & Mrs. Rekha D. ani of Djakarta. The photo shows left (top row) Mr. Pishu, Mr. ash, Mr. V. Ram, Mr. Parsram, Asha, Mrs. Kiran (front row) V. Ram, Mrs. Prakash, Mrs. Shalini Mrs. Rekha.

Seen at the same party are from left: Mrs. C.V. Parsram, Mrs. V. Ram, Mrs. Rekha, Mrs. M. Khenani, Mrs. Prakash, Mrs. Khenani and Mrs. Daswani.

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INDIAN TEXTILE EXHIBITION

The first ever Indian Textile and Garments Exhibition was formally inaugurated by the Chairman of Trade Fair Authority of India, Mr. Mohammad Yunus, at the ballroom of Hongkong Hilton Hotel on 18 May. The inauguration was preceded by a reception which was attended by the Chief Secretary of Hongkong Government Mr. D.C. Brwj, senior officials of the Hongkong Government, Chairman of Federation of Hong Kong Industries Mr. H.C. Tan, Chairman of Chinese General Chamber of Commerce Mr. K.C. Wong, Secretary General of Chinese Manufacturers Association of Hong Kong Mr. J.P. Lee, Chairman of Indian Chamber of Commerce Mr. K. Sital, foreign buying agents based in Hong Kong and many leading businessmen among others and the consular Corps.

The Commissioner of India in Hongkong Mr. C.V. Ranganathan welcomed the guests and read out

A view of the audience at the Fashion Show of the Indian Garments, which was sponsored by the Indian Chamber of Commerce.

'The Indian Look' was enhanced by these beautiful models of 'Models International' agency. Fashion Show Director and Master of Ceremonies was Ms. Mandy Cooke. Mrs. Vimla Patil, Editor of the leading Indian English fortnightly, "Femina" which is devoted to women and fashion, was the Fashion Co-Ordinator. Mrs. Patil is associated with fashion shows and choreography in India and abroad. She has been invited by "Nina Ricci" and "Christian Dior" for the "Fashion Of The World Fair" in Belgrade.

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essage of India's Commerce
er Mr. Pranab Mukherjee,
ly sent for this occasion.
anked the Hongkong Govern-
nd the trade and commercial
sations for extending valuable
nce for arranging the Exhi-
and expressed the hope that
hibition will not only create
areness about Indian Textile
cts from the machine and
ade sectors, but would also
in business orders. Hong
imported textiles from all
e world to feed its exports
ents.

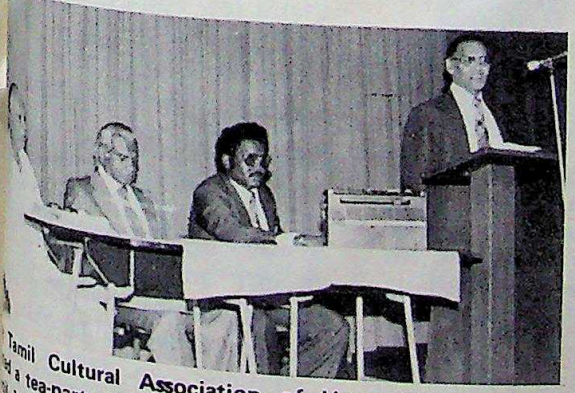
his inaugural speech, Mr.
mad Yunus stressed the
ance of textile industry in
the diversity and range of
cts and the competitiveness
dian products from the
e and handloom sectors. He
that Indian products display-
this Exhibition would meet
ndards of the discerning
of the local importers and
facturers.

e inaugural ceremony was
ed by a fashion show which
ed about 80 dresses ranging
casual and day-time wear
al evening dresses for ladies
n. The Fashion Show Press
w was attended by about 100
ntatives of the local Press
enting various newspapers,
magazines and women's
nes. The Fashion Show was
ered by the local Television.

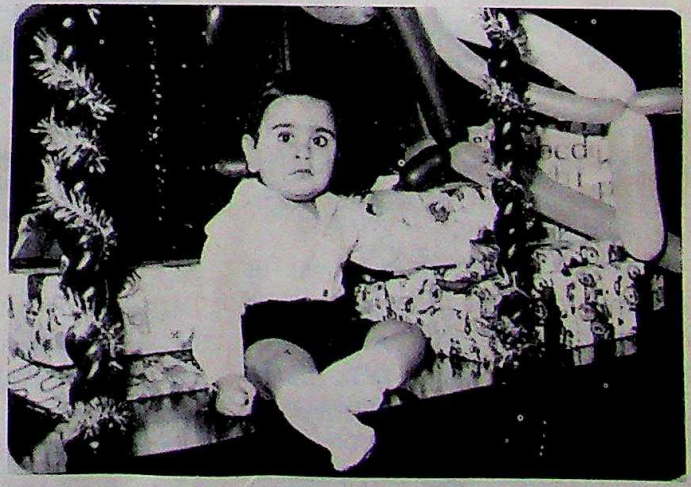
At the dinner hosted by Mr. K. Sital, Chairman of the Indian Chamber of Commerce, in honour of Mr. Mohammad Yunus, Chairman Trade Fair Authority of India, are seen from left: Mrs. Vimla Patil, Editor of 'Femina', Guest of honour Mr. M. Yunus, Mrs. C.V. Ranganathan, wife of Commissioner of India and Mrs. Lita Sital.

PROUD OWNERS

Mr. & Mrs. Rochi J. Buxani are seen leading their horse "Bingo" after she won the silvermine Bay Plate recently at the Happy Valley Race Course. "Bingo" has now been promoted to Class 6 which means she has another racing season ahead of her.



Tamil Cultural Association of Hong Kong recently
ed a tea-party in honour of Mr. A. Rajaram, speaker of
il Nadu Assembly. Mr. Rajaram was here on a brief
over from Malaysia on his way to Japan. The welcome
tion was largely attended by the members of the TCA
ong Kong. Photographed on the occasion are from left
r. A. Rajaram, President of the Tamil Cultural Associa-
Mr. A.M.A. Yaseen, Hon. Secretary of the Association
Kayal S.A. MD. Ali and Mr. Pavalar Yousuf.



Mr. & Mrs. Prakash and grandparents Mr. & Mrs. K. Dialdas recently celebrated first birthday of Rabindra. Pictured above is the birthday boy . . . all surprised at the pomp and show.

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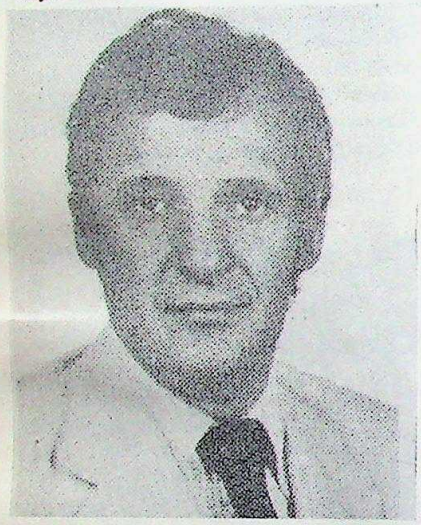
DOOTIANA

SHERMAN NAMED CG TO CALCUTTA

George F. Sherman, Jr., has been named as Consul General of the United States Consulate in Calcutta. He will shortly replace Raymond Perkins in that post.



George F. Sherman

ENVOY APPOINTED AS U.N. ENERGY CONSULTANT

Former UN Ambassador Brajesh Mishra has been named to represent India at the upcoming United Nations Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy, to be held in Nairobi in August. The appointment carries with it high-level UN consultancy.

Mishra, who stepped down in January of this year as India's UN ambassador, has since been replaced at the New York headquarters by the current Permanent Representative to the United Nations from India, Ambassador Natarajan Krishnan.

— C. K. Sharma

Above photo has been taken recently at the hotel Bordeaux, (in France) where the Indian Ambassador and Mrs. Rasgotra were guests of honour at the luncheon hosted by Mr. & Mrs. Chaban Delmas. Seen from left to right are Mr. Jacques Chaban-Delmas, Mayor of Bordeaux and President of National Assembly, Mrs. Chaban-Delmas, Mrs. Rasgotra and Mr. Rasgotra, Ambassador of India.

Mr. K. Mitter, First Secretary in the Commission of India, Hong Kong left for New Delhi recently where he will take over his new assignment. His post in Hongkong has been filled by Mr. P. Vijay Kumar.

ENVOY DIES IN PLANE CRASH

Ravi Tandon, India's Ambassador-Designate to Spain, was killed in a glider crash on May 31. The single-seater AS-1 glider flown by him crashed in a field near the capital's Ashoka Hotel, barely four minutes after takeoff from Safdarjung Airport.

Tandon, 48, suffered head injuries and was declared dead at the Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital where he was taken.

Delhi Gliding Club Secretary Vishwabandhu Gupta told reporters that a few minutes after taking off Tandon was circling for a landing when the glider crashed in a field a few hundred feet from the airport's edge.

While Safdarjung Airport is not open to commercial air traffic, it is used by single-engined trainer aircraft and gliders. The airport houses the Delhi Flying Club, in addition to the gliding club.

Tandon, an experienced flier, was recently India's High Commissioner to Zambia. He earned his glider pilot's license in 1965 and held an international certificate for gliding.

He is survived by his wife, two daughters and a son.

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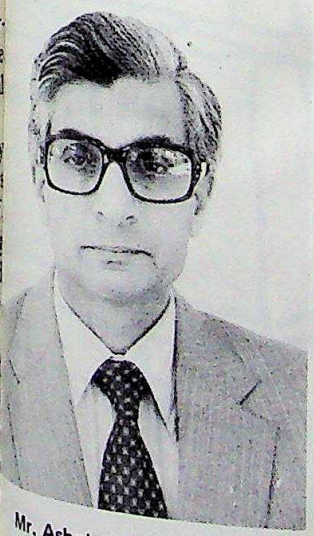
TOURS FOR MISSION HEADS

Ministry of External Affairs anising two tours of Heads of ns from the developing coun- stationed in New Delhi, to s parts of India with a view quainting them with its ial enterprises, scientific and ch institutes. These tours are conducted in the context of growing emphasis placed by on strengthening economic chnical co-operation among veloping countries.

AMBASSADOR TO THAILAND

Ashoke B. Gokhale, the appointed Ambassador to d, presented his Credentials M. the King of Thailand y. Mr. Gokhale, born in , was educated in Fergusson



Mr. Ashoke B. Gokhale

ge, Poona & later in Cam- e University. He joined Indian gn Services in 1955. From to 1972, he was appointed assador of India to Bhutan on different assignments in a, Germany, Jordon & France. He served as Minister & Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of India, Washington, from September 1977 to June 1979. Mr. Gokhale besides his mother tongue Marathi is fluent in Hindi, English, German & French. He is married & has two sons.

ENVOY TO U.N.

India's new U.N. representative, Mr. Natarajan Krishnan, has presented his credentials to the Secretary General, Mr. Kurt Waldheim.

The 52-year-old envoy previously served in the Foreign Ministry as Additional Secretary in charge of International Organisation Affairs as well as African and European Affairs.

Mr. Krishnan joined the Indian Foreign Service in 1951 and has held posts in Thailand, Indo-China. Argentina, Switzerland and Yugoslavia.

He has been closely associated with the U.N. since 1958 when he was an adviser to the Indian delegation to the General Assembly. He was permanent representative to the U.N. office in Geneva from 1967 to 1971.

VIETNAM ENVOY

The new ambassador of the socialist republic of Vietnam, Mr. Nguyen Quang Tao has presented his credentials to President Sanjiva Reddy at Rashtrapathi Bhavan.

ENVOY ELECTED UNIDO'S CHAIRMAN

India's ambassador to Austria, Mr. Dalal, was unamimously elected chairman of the 15th session of the UNIDO permanent committee. Mr. Dalal was also chosen as the President of UNIDO's governning body, the industrial development board.

DIPLOMATIC STAFF CUT

The External Affairs Ministry has trimmed India's diplomatic staff in the United States to 180. Earlier, there were 300 foreign service personnel based in the U.S.

The mission staff in London, too, has been brought down from 400 to 250. The Ministry said that this has been done in order to strengthen missions in the Gulf and African countries.

This will enable the Ministry to save about $2.5 million during the current fiscal year. As estimated 45 per cent of the Foreign Ministry's budget for Indian missions is being spent on those in North America and Europe.

AMBASSADOR TO ZAIRE

Mr. Vinod Kumar C. Khanna, joint secretary in the ministry of external affairs, has been appointed India's ambassador to Zaire.

R.K. NEHRU CREMATED

Mr. Ratan Kumar Nehru, former Secretary-General, Foreign Affairs, who died in Allahabad was cremated at Rasoolabad cremation ghat on the bank of the Ganga.

HIGH COMMISSIONER TO MAURITIUS

Professor Saran Upadhyaya has been appointed the next High Commissioner of India to Mauritius. Furthermore Mr. Gil takes over the post of First Secretary as Mr. Prem Singh leaves for another assignment.

— N. Ackabarally

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BOOKING OFFICES: Hong Kong: Hong Kong Hilton Hotel Arcade Tel: 5-247180, 5-247139 Kowloon: Peninsula Hotel Lobby AIRPORT: Tel
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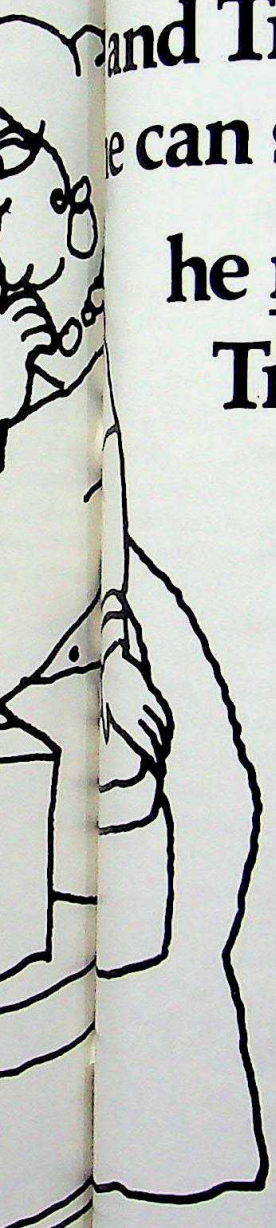
If a ming up an arithmetical solution to a ger with excess baggage, nd re-checking the Load and Trim Sheet of a Boeing, e can still balance the balance sheet...

he must be an Air-India Traffic Officer.



A mathematical wizard, our Airport Traffic Officer. Figures love him, always besiege him. And he's never quite himself without them. Kilos, grams, flight timings, 'jet-lags'.

Give him a late-arrival flight. And a dozen businessmen who've missed their onward connections and swear their allegiance to us! He knows they won't be in the mood for love, not with us—so what does he do— he helps to flex their elbows and all is whole again.

He will juggle figures with the ease of a computer. The total weight of his 747 won't be a kilo over 351,000 kgs. And when a family of tourists comes off a flight, not speaking a word of English or Hindi, his sign language will guide them to a hotel of their choice.

He is only doing his job. Because he knows there is someone very special on board.

You, dear passenger.

AIR-INDIA

YOUR COUNTRY'S AIRLINE

tel Lobby

AIRPORT: Tel. 3-829558/9

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Gleanings from Indian press

GOLD MINING

The abandoned Porojarna gold mine in Singhbhum district of Bihar, if mined properly can be commercially viable, according to the Geological Survey of India.

VICE CHANCELLOR

Prof. Surinder Singh, at present professor of political science in the University of Wisconsin, has been appointed vice-chancellor of Banaras Hindi University for a three-year term.

INDUSTRY RECORDS 6.8 PERCENT ANNUAL GROWTH

The organised sector of industry has registered a growth rate of 6.8 per cent in 1980-81, according to minister of state for industry, Dr. Charanjit Chanana.

SIKHS SEEK TOBACCO BAN

More than 20,000 blue-turbaned Sikhs, most of them armed with spears, swords, machetes and canes, marched nearly two miles in Amritsar recently to press a demand for a ban on the use and sale of tobacco and intoxicants in the city.

DISTINGUISHED CIVIL SERVANT APPOINTED GOVERNOR OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR

A distinguished civil servant, Mr. B.K. Nehru, has succeeded Mr. L.K. Jha, also I.C.S. and a former Ambassador, as the Governor of Jammu and Kashmir State. Mr. Nehru is the son of the late Mr. Brij Lal Nehru (a first cousin of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru) and Mrs. Rameshwari Nehru.

Educated at Allahabad University, Baleiol College, Oxford, the Inner Temple, London and the London School of Economics, Mr. Nehru started his official career upon joining the Indian Civil Service in 1934 as Assistant Commissioner in the Govt. of the Punjab. After serving as Deputy Secretary and Joint Secretary in the Union Govt. Department of Finance, Mr. Nehru was appointed Executive Director in the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development at Washington D.C., in 1949. In 1958, he was appointed Commissioner General for Economic Affairs of the Govt. of India. From 1961 to 1968, he was India's Ambassador to the United States. The photograph belongs to that period; he (left) is seen with Mr. Avery Brundage in San Francisco in 1967 where he inaugurated the Brundage Museum of Indian and South-east Asian art and antiquities.

Ambassador B.K. Nehru and Svery Brundage.

From 1968 to 1972, Mr. Nehru was Governor of Assam and Nagaland, then India's High Commissioner to U.K., 1973-75. Mr. Nehru has represented India at a host of international conferences since the forties. He is author of "Speaking of India" and a number of books and papers. He has visited J. & K. State on numerous occasions. His father, Mr. Brij Lal Nehru was Financial Adviser to the State in mid-forties; his mother, Rameshwariji, was a well-known Gandhiite and social worker, and very popular in Kashmir and northern India of undivided India days. Mr. Nehru comes to the sensitive border State at an important point of time and we wish him success.

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INDIAN MUSIC NCERT AT PRAGUE

ncert of vocal Indian ical music given by Pt. in Prague on the night th May at Prague Spring rnational Music Festival was ved with extended acclaim apacity audience. Concert held in historic Valdstejn e in 17th century Broque nd represented re-entry of n classical music at prestig- three-week Prague Spring Festival after a lapse of 20 years.

NDIA-ZAMBABWE CULTURAL AGREEMENT

Cultural Agreement be- n India and Zimbawe was d by the two governments w Delhi.

he Agreement consisting of rticles aims at establishing r cultural links and under- ing between the two coun- in the fields of art, culture, ation, science and techno- , sports, public health and media.

QUEEN HONOURS NDIAN SCIENTIST

Calcutta-born scientist, Dr. Majumdar, whose discover- d to the growth of glass- orced cement industry in ain, has been awarded OBE er of the British Empire) Queen Elizabeth.

r. Majumdar, 50 has been king with Britain's Building arch Establishment (BRE) graduating from Calcutta Pennsylvania State Univer- in the United States.

MISS INDIA

Once it was the stepladder to stardom, success and fame, but today both the *Femina* and *Eve's Weekly*-sponsored Miss India competitions have lost some of their glitter. To prove that they are the representatives of the "total Indian woman", two contenders for the two Miss India crowns climbed onto the stage in spite of boos from militant women libbers, and came out jubilant. *Rachita Kumar*, 18 and *Sashikala Seshadri*, 17, last fortnight beamed blithely and walked off with the Femina and Eve's Weekly Miss India crowns. Kumar, daughter of a naval surgeon, models regularly in fashion shows and live promotional campaigns. Says Kumar, who is an economics student at St Xavier's College: "I am very serious about my studies, and I plan to do a course in Management. Films just don't fit into my plans."

Seshadri: tempted by films

Seshadri, on the other hand, has a totally different approach to the lofty crown placed on her delicate head. Just out of a New Delhi convent, Seshadri is a classical dancer, has acted on stage and also modelled. But for this just-out-of-school girl, studies come first, although the sweet taste of stardom is too much of a temptation. Said Seshadri coyly: "I will join up if any tempting offers come my way." For the moment, though, Seshadri, instead of returning home

Rachita: "Basically beauty contests are nothing but an ego boost"

to Delhi, is content to linger in Bombay, in search of a new role to match her rhinestone crown. To note that winner of Femina Miss India title will enter 'Miss Universe' (U.S.A.) contest whereas Eve's Weekly Miss India is eligible to participate in 'Miss World' (U.K.) competition.

ASHRAM BLASTS PROBED

Police are investigating two explosions at the Pune ashram of controversial sex guru Rajneesh May 29 which caused a fire that destroyed thousands of books.

Rajneesh, who calls himself "Bhagwan" (God), has upset some Pune residents by sex therapy and tantric yoga practices carried out by mixed groups of young men and women disciples at the ashram.

An alleged stabbing attempt was made on the life of the guru last year, but a man was later acquitted by a local court.

The 47-year-old Rajneesh, who has now gone silent, appeared before his disciples as usual in the main part of the ashram and his supporters – mostly Americans, Europeans, and Japanese – raised their arms in a demonstration of protest at the blasts.

The explosions occured outside a Rajneesh foundation medical center and at a book storage depot.

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MASS MARRIAGES OF CHILDREN

About 10,000 child marriages were performed on "Akha Teej" in the Marwar area of Rajasthan.

"Akha Teej", believed to be one of the most auspicious days of the year for marriages, is the only day when a pandit is not consulted for performing the ceremonies.

The day also suits the middle class and poor rural familes who have reaped rich harvests from their crops and there is comparatively little work on the fields.

Rows of marriage parties came on camels and bullock-carts and on foot from distances on the occassion.

Ten people accompanied each "barat" as an elder of the village conducted the marriages.

FIRST WOMAN COLLECTOR

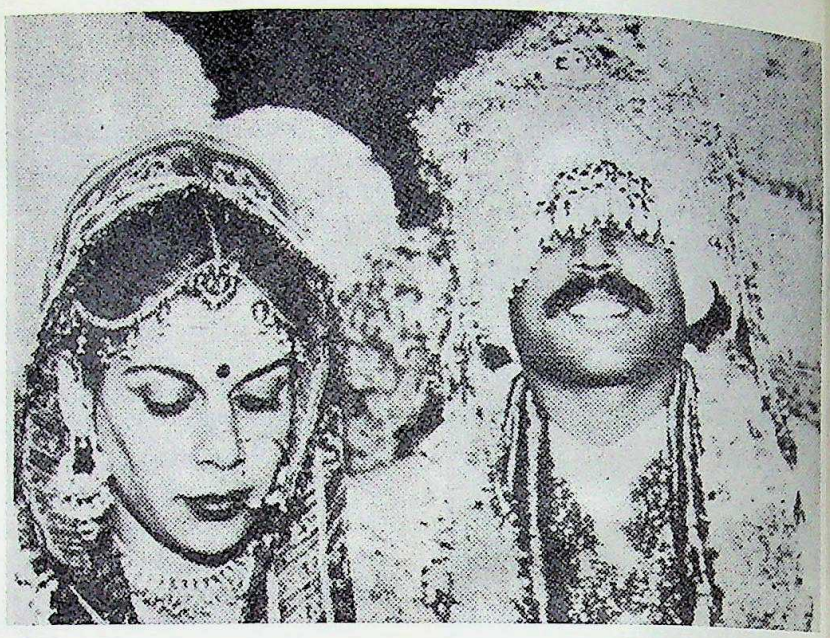
Miss Sharvari Gokhale, the first woman collector in Maharashtra has taken charge.

Kolhapur had a tradition of having women rulers and administrators. The founder of Kolhapur Chhatrapati Dynasty was Maharani Tarabai, daughter-in-law of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj.

Also in 1762, Maharani Jijabai, wife of Sambhaji II, had appointed five women mamlatdars to administer the kingdom from Panhala, the then capital.

ELECTED

Raunaq Singh, has been elected Chairman of Raunaq Enterprises, as President of Associated Chambers of Commerce for 1981-82 in New Delhi.



Cricket allrounder Kapil Dev married Romi in traditional style in New Delhi recently. Dev plans to play in English county cricket this summer.

CLEAN BOWLED

Another very eligible Indian wicket has fallen. Lanky Dilip Vengsarkar, 25, has been clean bowled by Manali Wandrekar, who claims that "it was love at first sight." The marriage is scheduled for when the cricket season ends, so Manali will be putting in good practice at playing second fiddle.

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ABRUPT END

enkat Narayan, editor of tnightly New Delhi and his senior colleagues were ned to Calcutta and told he Ananda Bazar Patrika in a position to bear the on the fortnightly any and has decided to fold

g with New Delhi, three ublications are also being down – Mela, a children's y in Hindi, Bhoomi-i, a Bengali periodical, Hindustan Standard, an g daily.

AWARDED

tabha Chattopadhyaya, tional Award for the ook on cinema. The book tra, *Samaj O Satyajit* t the author Rs 5,000 .

DIED

Y.S. Parmar, 75, former hal Pradesh chief minister, away in Simla. He was ng from cancer. Popularly as "Himachal Nirmata", nised the Uket Satyagraha 48 which culminated in the tion of the state with the ation of 31 princely states. was elected to the state bly in 1952 and became first chief minister of chal Pradesh.

DIA HAS ENOUGH OIL RESOURCES, YS SOVIET EXPERT

renowned Soviet oil expert nvinced that West Bengal, bay basin, the region of eshwar, Punjab and Assam provide substantial oil.

KISHORI AT TRIVENI

An air of release, of freedom going with the minimum use of colour and minimal overt symbolism characterise the 27 canvases of Kishori Kaul at Triveni Kala Sangam, New Delhi. The echo of the inspiring mountains of Kashmir, her home, that pervaded her earlier paintings, is since toned down. Her compositions have evolved from the materialistic to the abstract and are attractively sustained by an almost artless deliberation.

Kishori Kaul

A descendant of Narayan Muratgar, a renowned miniature painter of Kashmir, Kishori Kaul has been painting since the age of thirteen. She received her formal training at the Faculty of Fine Arts, M.S. University, Baroda.

She has visited and exhibited her works in the U.K., Holland, Germany, Austria and Switzerland. In 1980 she was awarded a Senior Fellowship for two years by the Government of India.

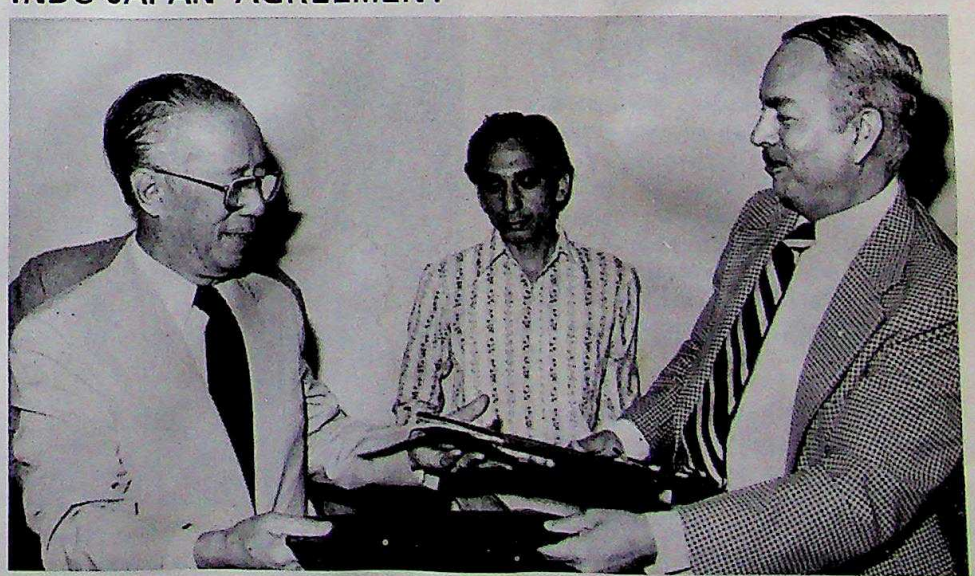
Kishori has to her credit 16 individual exhibition in the U.K., Switzerland and India. She is the recipient of 17 awards from art academies and art societies – these include the National Award of 1981. Among other collections, her paintings are to be seen at the National Gallery of Modern Art, New Delhi and Lalit Kala Akademi, New Delhi.

ART HERITAGE

Triveni Kala Sangam houses the Art Heritage Gallery. ART HERITAGE, a survey of Indian art, past and present, is published in book form as part of a continuing series by the Art Heritage Gallery. The writings break fresh ground and offer original points of view of aspects of Indian and Asian art. ART HERITAGE also brings out publications about contemporary artists – Dhanraj Bhagat, M.F. Hussin, A.M. Darierwalla, H.A. Gade and Akbar Padamsee have been covered so far.

– Asha Dhar

INDO-JAPAN AGREEMENT



Mr. R.N. Malhotra, Secretary Economic Affairs and Mr. Masao Kanazawa, Ambassador of Japan in India, exchanging documents after signing an agreement for Japanese Aid for Chandrapur Thermal Power Station Expansion Project.

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BRAVERY AWARD

Rewa Ram, a 12-year-old boy who fought a wild bear to save the life of this younger brother in a forest near Singhi village in Raipur district recently has been awarded Rs. 30,000 for bravery by the Madhya Pradesh chief minister, Mr. Arjun Singh.

CHILDREN WHO WORK

The number of children below 15 years employed as labour was 10.7 million according to the 1971 census, Mrs. Sinha said in reply to a question in Parliament.

The government was of the opinion that child labour was *the* product of the socio-economic conditions prevailing in the country.

The government's endeavour was to ensure the welfare of such children with regard to their health, education and recreation, Mrs. Sinha said.

SPECIAL BEARER BONDS

The total sale of Special Bearer Bonds floated to net black money amounted to Rs. 373-05 crores upto 30th April, 1981, when the sale was suspended. The government had expected to collect about Rs. 1,000 Crores.

K.D. MALAVIYA IS DEAD

Mr. Keshev Dev Malaviya, former union minister for petroleum and chemicals, died in the All-India Institute of Medical Sciences in Delhi on May 27, following a serious liver ailment.

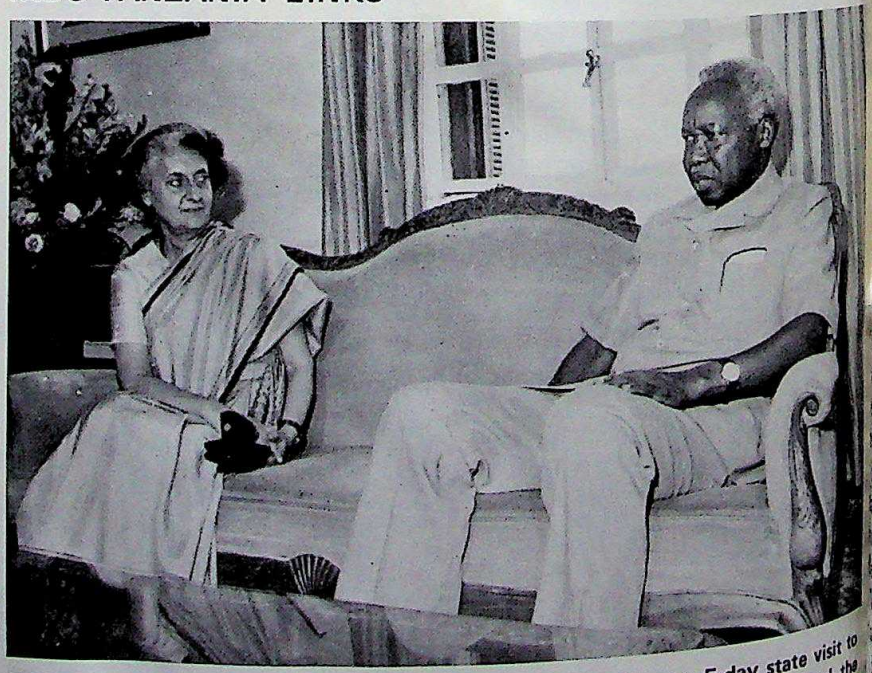
TAX CONCESSIONS SEEKED

The Arab Indian Muslim Association has urged Prime Minister Indira Gandhi for tax concessions and some other incentives for Indians abroad to invesr their savings in India. In an eight-page memorandum handed to her in Dubai recently, the association sought raising the custom duty free allowance to Rs. 5,000 from the present Rs. 1,000 and a review of the "difficult" immigration formalities for recruitment of labour to the Gulf and other regions.

The association wanted exemption of stamp duty and registration charges in property acquired in India out of funds remitted from abroad. The Dubai-based association urged the Prime Minister to create a separate Ministry of Immigration and Overseas Indians. The Ministry should look other the interests of Indians abroad and "If necessary amend various laws which affect them so that Indians abroad could feel more happy and secure and their contribution to the national economy is rewarded."

Stating that the present Indian tax laws hit them hard, the association suggested that no tax be lived on income earned by Indians from their employment abroad. The definiton of "non-resident" under the income-tax act should be amended so that once a person leaves India for employment abroad and stays outside India upto the end of the next financial year, he should be considered a non-resident for tax purposes. To encourage investment, the Indians abroad should be given exemption from wealth tax. On custom duty, the association said that apart from raising the duty free allowance to Rs. 5,000, the existing rate of duty of 320 per cent should be brought to the previous level of 120 per cent subject to a maximum allowance of Rs. 15,000. Goods brought over Rs. 15,000 may be charged at a higher rate. As an incentive to investment, the association suggested that the customs allowance and duty exemption be linked to actual remittance and investment in India.

INDO-TANZANIA LINKS



Tanzanian President, Dr. Julius Nyerere, who was recently on a 5-day state visit to India, is seen with Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. In a joint communique issued, the two leaders were appreciative of the solidarity that existed between India and Tanzania. India will extend assistance to Tanzania for technical education, irrigation and port facilities and help set up sugar and cement mills.

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CHAVAN WOOS INDIRA

Foreign Minister Yeshwant B. Chavan said he had to join Prime Minister Mrs. Gandhi's ruling Congress (I)

n, 68-year-old veteran of politics, told a press conference June 6, that he made the in a letter to Gandhi. recently quit the Official Party.

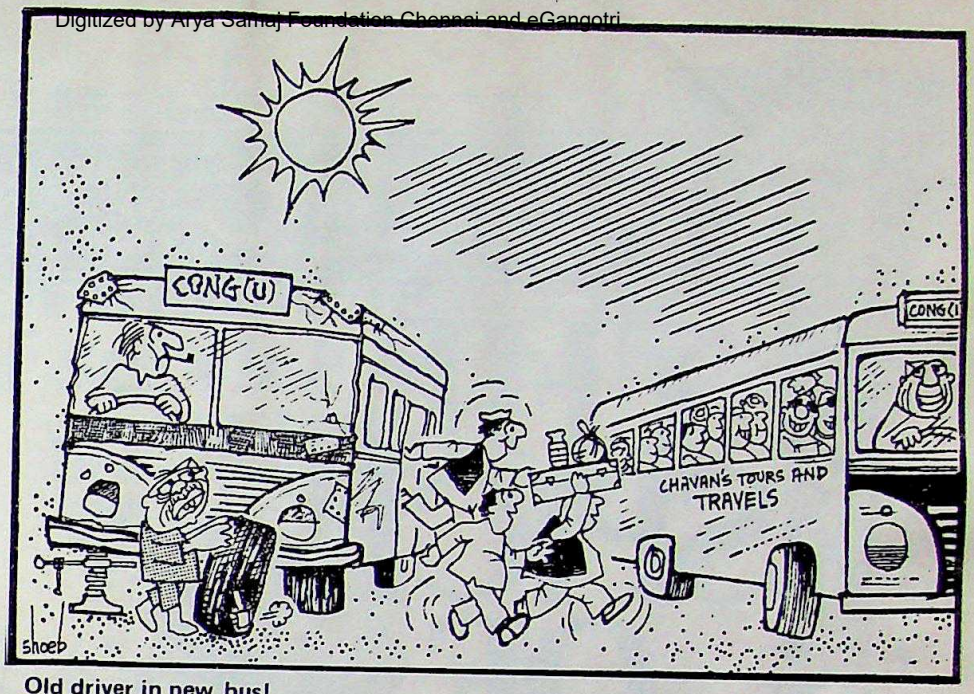
decision comes at a time e opposition is in almost isarray in facing seven entary and 28 state assembections on June 14, which give a stimulus to Gandhi's

n was the parliamentary f the opposition official Party, a group from Gandhi's party broke away. brought into the central ent by Gandhi's father. Minister Jawaharlal Nehru, and became Foreign in 1974 after holding the Home and Finance port-

n is expected to bring a number of his supporters m from his home state of dhra into Gandhi's party.

UING CELEBRATES GORE BIRTHDAY

Chinese People's Associa- Friendship with Foreign es organised a function to morate the 120th birth ary of Rabindranath . The meeting was presided by CPAFFC President Wang n. Other Chinese dignitaries included Hou Tong, Vice nt of the CPAFFC, Xia Vice President of the Chinese and Writers Federation and President of the CPAFFC, or Ji Xianlin, Vice President University and Head of the Asian Association and famous Chinese poets Ai Quing and Cang Kejia. The Indian Ambassador Mr. Bajpai and visiting Vice Chancellor of Viswa Bharati, Dr. Amlan Datta, were amongst the Indian invitees.



Old driver in new bus!

PAINTLESS POTTERY

The excellences of village pottery were exhibited in New Delhi. Here, a master craftsman is presenting an ornate flask to the Prime Minister.

TANTRIK BECOMES VICTIM OF HUMAN SACRIFICE

Prafulla Kumar Mandal, said to be a middle aged tantrik of the Mahammadbazar area thought of grabbing a big haul of hidden treasure that was lying buried somewhere in the Ganpur woods.

He claimed that he had been visited by goddess Kali in a dream and the goddess wanted to be propitiated by human sacrifice which would enable the tantrik to get hold of the treasure trove.

But in a strange quirk of fate, the tantrik himself became the victim of human sacrifice as his body was found with slit open in the Ganpur forest early this month.

Police came to know of this bizzare tale following the arrest of three youths of the same village and the seizure of a heavy matchet believed to have been used for killing the tantrik along with some blood stained clothes. Their interrogation revealed that the tantrik took them into confidence, paid them some money and engaged them for procuring him victim for human sacrifice.

On the last night of "black moon" all of them went to the Ganpur forest where they became inebriated after consuming hard liquor in tantrik rites. What happened next was that the "chelas" of the tantrik allegedly turned on him and as a result his body was found in the forest next morning.

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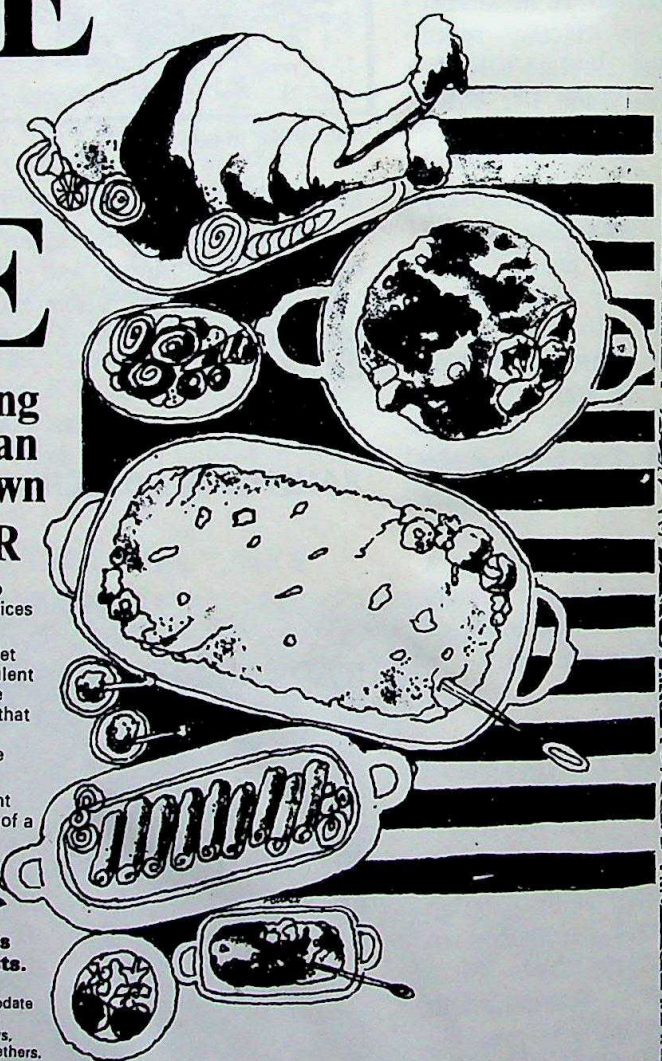
THE SPICE OF LIFE



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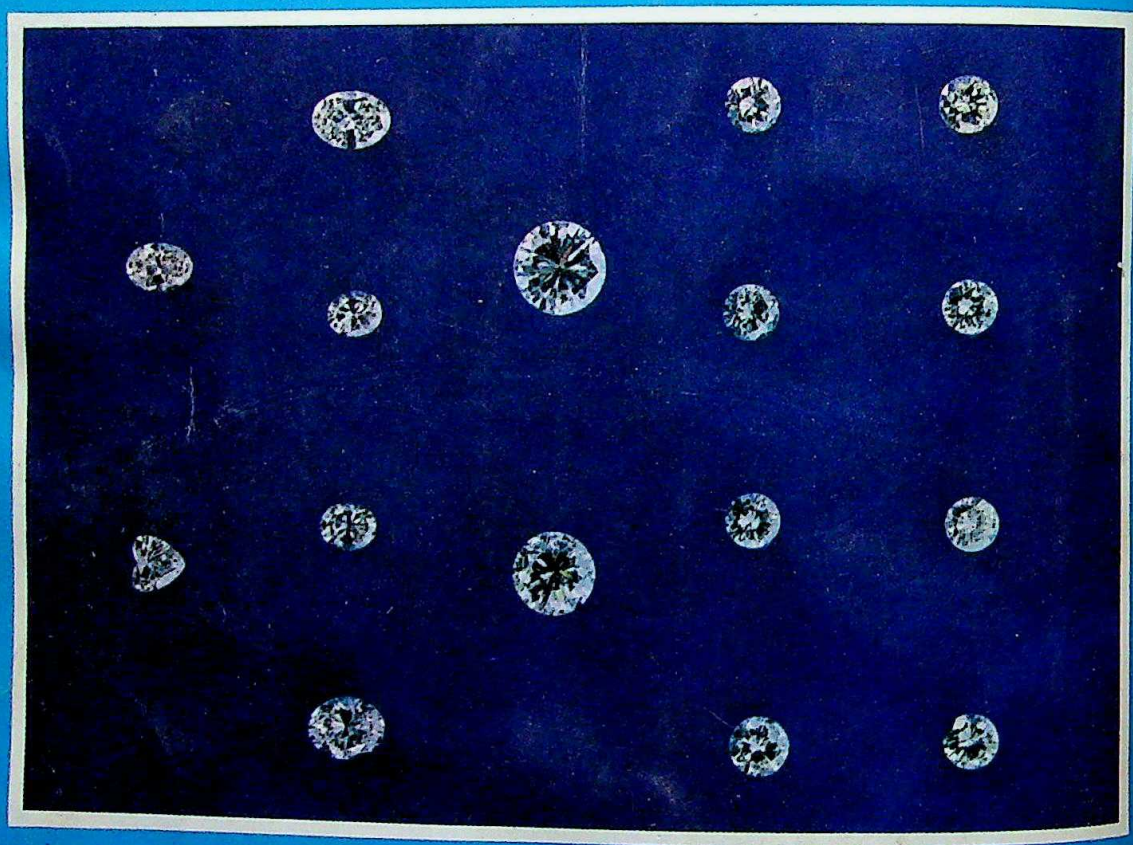

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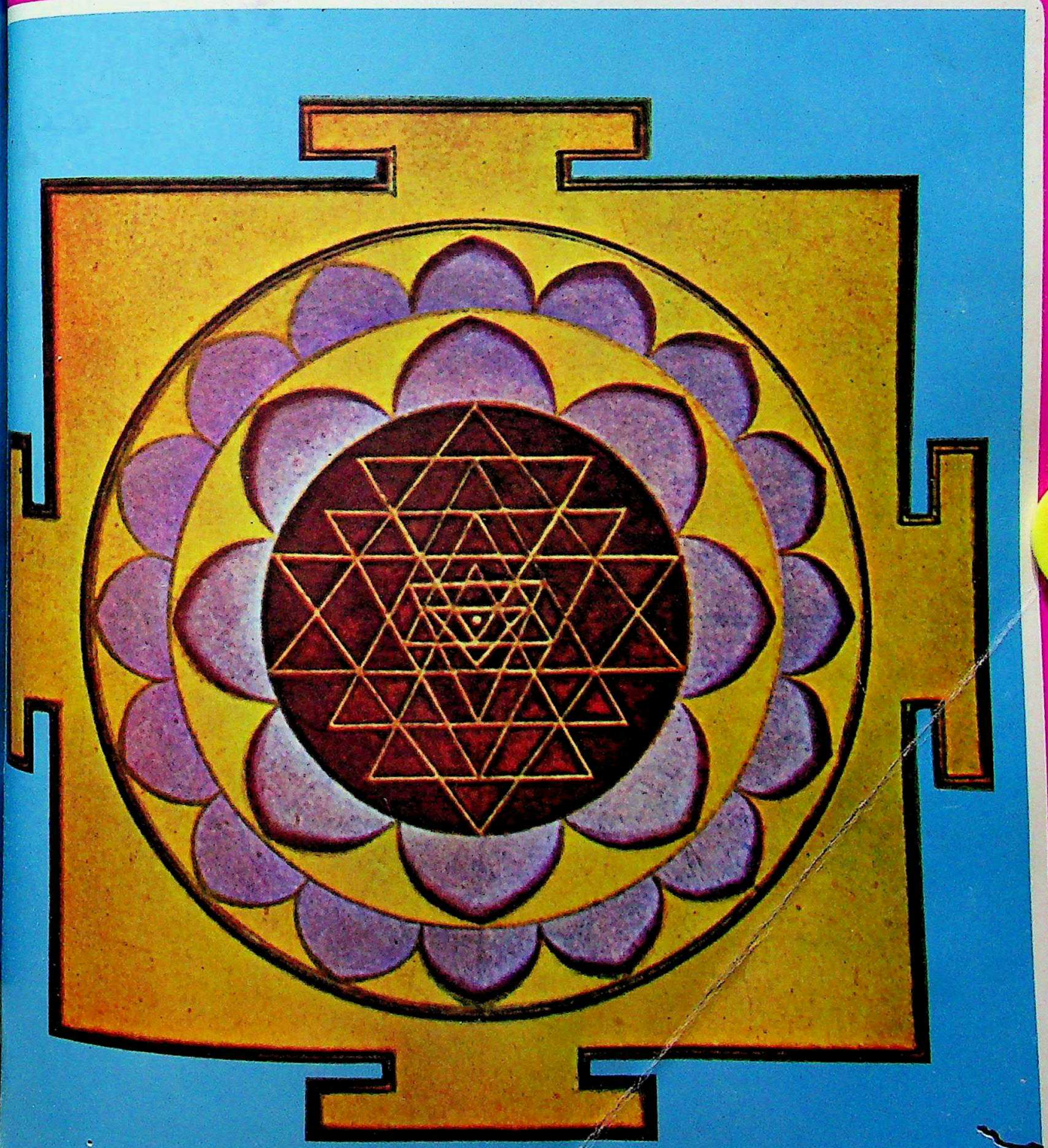

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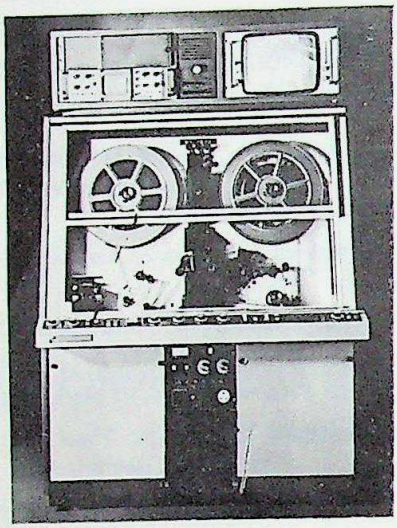

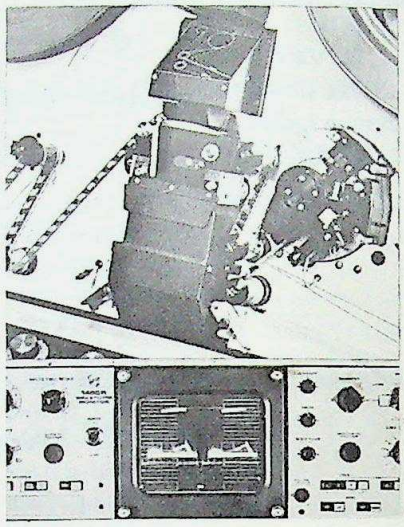

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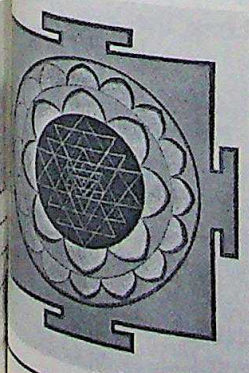

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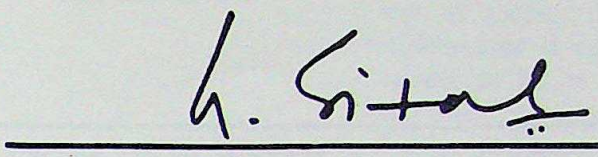

TAMILS OF SRI LANKA

The plight of Tamils in Sri Lanka has evoked a good deal of concern in India, particularly in Tamil Nadu. The violence that shook the island recently from the eastern provinces almost up to Colombo hurt the Tamils much worse than the 1977 or previous riots. Concentrated in Jaffna, the northern province, the Sri Lanka Tamils total 1.8 millions. Sri Lanka is their homeland and has been so for centuries, along with the Indian Tamils who were indentured in the plantations in the mid-19th century.

A people who exhausted their lives tending the plantation economy of the island found that they were not wanted any more. The repatriation process, under an agreement (Srimavo-Shastri Agreement of 1964) that is in direct violation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, has been far from satisfactory. There are yet 6,25,000 Tamilians to be repatriated. The road to hell is paved with good intentions. Nearly 400 Indian schemes of rehabilitation have floundered, hardly bettering the lot of the 270,000 unfortunates repatriated so far. At the present rate of repatriation, the process would take about 30 years!

Politically, the Sri Lanka Tamils are represented by the Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF). The leader of Indian Tamils, Mr. S.S. Thondaman, who has headed the Ceylon Workers' Congress for a long time, moved away from the TULF and is since a minister in the Sri Lanka Cabinet. But neither he nor any senior Tamil politician has visited the camps of the Indian refugees to share their distress with them. The situation is complicated by the activities of an extremist fringe of the TULF that invited the Sinhalese backlash and the Tamils in the highlands suffered in the latest outrage.

The Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Mr. M.G. Ramachandran, wrote to Sri Lanka Foreign Minister A.C. Shahul Hameed, seeking protection for Indian tourists visiting the island. That is a side issue, followup to fatal attack on a Madras tourist Dhanapathi in Sri Lanka. What impinged on the political issue was Mr. Ramachandran's call for a statewide *hartal* to protest against "atrocities on Tamils in Sri Lanka". The gesture can hardly help mend fences with a country with which India has traditional; close cultural relations. The need of the day is to identify issues that call for joint action and to tackle them one by one.

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Rear View

K. N. VAID

SOUTHALL

RACE RIOTS IN BRITAIN

England has been plagued with race riots once again. The situation has been so alarming that Prime Minister Indira Gandhi sent the Punjab Chief Minister, Mr. Darbara Singh to England to study the situation first hand, meet Prime Minister Thatcher and submit a report on return home. The riots have been reported world wide. We publish below an editorial of the British monthly magazine 'Politics' written by editor Shergill without comment.

"On 3rd July, the peaceful town of Southall witnessed racial attacks and flames caused due to the calculated and organised plan by skinheads and other so called white national crusaders. The unprovoked attack by these anti-social elements on one of the prominent members of our community shattered the peace of the area and involved police who were caught inbetween in this nasty violence. As it happens, the Southall Asian community, mostly of Indian descent, has on the whole good relations with the local police – though occasionally this understanding breaks down for the lack of communication.

The latest incident at Southall is, in essence, a part of chain reaction of racial riots at Bristol, Brixton and Liverpool. Continuous harassment and physical attacks on immigrants and their properties in Coventry, East, North and South London are going on unabated. Southall, in West London, has witnessed it again and again. As late as 1976, it was a Sikh youth who was murdered. In 1978, three white youths burned down my own warehouse. In 1979, a teacher was murdered. Now in 1981, a number of shops are damaged, an Indian woman attacked and a public house burned down. It has happened whenever outsiders have interferred and disturbed the peace of Southall where everybody lives and works together regardless their colour, creed and nationality. A few outside elements with scant following among immigrant community always use these tragic situations for their own selfish and nefarious ends.

I am sorry to say that the law enforcement machinery, politicians, social and other organisations do not seem to have any solution except to question the presence of coloured immigrants in the British society who are here legally as a part and parcel of the British set up for atleast over a century. The mention of repatriation, ban on coloured immigration and threatening postures of a prominent section of the ruling Tory party is nothing but to bring the level of discussion to the Kindergarten level. These people must learn and realise that Britain like any other prosperous entity is a multi-racial and civilised society. If they want it to be otherwise, than these very prophets of doom need to be repatriated, only God knows whereto!"

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MUSLIM CONVERTS

The recent mass conversion of low caste Hindus to Islam in ts of South India have been ved with considerable alarm in country. Several hundred famil- in hinterland of the South ip villages renounced Hinduism embraced Islam. The conver- mania is increasing and reports fresh conversions are coming om Central India as well.

India is a secular country and h of a person is no business of government unless the faith ge is affected through force or expoitation of a person's erty and hardship. It is alleged Arab money is behind these versions. A Kuwait newspaper orted that Rs. 400,000 were to India to convert 50 families Islam. The Islamic Cultural tre – a world wide London ed muslim body has circulated eport outlining a strategy for nversion of Hindus and raise r population in India from millions to 200 millions. A ding Indian news magazine sent investigation team to the scene conversions. While most of the converts denied receiving oney to become muslims the m found most women wearing w saris and men dressed in brand w terene shirts – something not rmally found amongst these ople.

The muslim leaders vehmently y the use of money for con- sion. They contend that the w caste Hindus are pushed to am by Hindus themselves. The w caste Hindus are treated badly the high caste. The former annot enter temples, are not per- tted to draw water from wells, st live in an exclusive neighbour- hood on the outskirt of a village and similar other caste practices. The low caste are no longer prepared to accept this treatment. On becoming muslim they enter a mosque like anyone else draw water from wells without objection and sit on the table as equal amongst muslims. "Equality is to be encouraged and muslims in socialist India will do so."

The process of conversion is simple – atleast the first part. The prospective convert sits in front of a *maulvi*, the holy Quran is put in his hands and he is asked to recite several verses read by the maulvi. Then a green cap is placed on his head and a new muslim name is given to him. The first ceremony is over. The convert then goes to the nearby town for circumcision which is painful nevertheless necessary. Only then he becomes a proper muslim.

Conversions are not new to India. Over 80 percent of Indian muslims and almost all Christians were former Hindus. Neither the use of money, force or fraud for conversions is new. But this is no reason to let it continue even today. The government machinery is being activated to ensure that those who seek conversions are motivated by the desire to change faith and by nothing else.

The measure however is of a limited use. The Hindu society needs to mend its ways. And some attitudes of the high caste are too deeprooted and deplorable. A senior professor said to me recently, "I am a Brahmin and live in a brahmin neighbourhood. I can tolerate a low caste in my class but if he comes to live in my neighbourhood I will move out". This typifies the higher caste attitudes. Modern education, long stay abroad, fashion, high society, disco music seem to make less inroads in so far as caste attitudes are concerned. And unless these attitudes change there is not much that can be done to stem the tide of conversions.

TAMILS OF SRI LANKA *See Samaiki*

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Taxation In India

If you have income, properties and assets in India, you are liable to be taxed. If you make major gifts to your children, relatives or friends out of your assets in India, you may be liable to pay Gift Tax. Tax planning is important. The article below gives a general idea about taxation in India.

— Editor

INCOME TAX

BASIC CONCEPTS

Income tax is an annual charge ed by the Govt. of India at the es fixed by the Budget called nance Act passed every year by Parliament. It is charged for ry assessment year on the total ome of tax-payer during pre- us year.

Assessment year is the financial r from April 1 to March 31. ancial year preceding the assess- nt year or any other accounting r of the payer ending during t year is known as previous year.

Indians abroad must note that e liability to pay income tax does depend on their nationality domicile abroad. It depends on eir residential status i.e. whether der the Income Tax Act, 1961 ey are:

(i) Resident, or
(ii) Not ordinarily resident, or
(iii) Non-resident.

TESTS FOR DETERMINING RESIDENTIAL STATUS

An individual who satisfies any the following conditions is a dent in India:

(i) he is domiciled in India for 182 days or more in the previous year.

(ii) he is maintaining the dwelling place for 182 days or more and domiciled in India for 30 days or more in the previous year.

(iii) he is in India for 365 days or more within four years preceding and domiciled in India for 60 days in the previous year.

In respect of Indians serving abroad and who visit India, concession has been made with effect from 1-4-1979 while determining their residential status. Accordingly, they will be resident in India if one of the following conditions is satisfied:—

(i) he is in India for 182 days or more in the year.

(ii) he maintains a residence for 182 days in the year and he is physically present for at least 90 days during the year.

(iii) he has been in India for 365 days during the preceding five years and is in India for at least 90 days in the year.

An individual is regarded as "Not ordinarily resident" in India in the previous year if he

(a) has not been resident in India in 9 out of 10 previous years; or

(b) has not, during 7 years preceding the previous year in India for a period or periods amounting in all to 730 days or more.

In view of clause (a) hereinbefore a new comer to India would be not ordinarily resident for the first nine years of his stay in India. Similarly, a person who is resident in India goes abroad and remains non-resident for more than 2 years would upon his return, be treated as not ordinarily resident for the next nine years.

It is worthwhile to note distinction between the meanings of Non-Resident under the Income-Tax Act and that of under FERA 1973. Under the former, residential status depends on the duration of stay/ dwelling house in India whereas under the latter it is determined by the purpose of stay abroad.

Note: Any reference to 'resident' not ordinarily resident' and 'non-resident' in the matters relating to Income Tax, Wealth Tax and Gift Tax means 'Resident' 'Not Ordinarily Resident' and 'Non-Resident' as defined under sec. 6 of Income Tax Act, 1961 and explained hereinbefore.

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SCOPE OF INCOME LIABLE TO TAX IN INDIA

This is determined by the residential status as against nationality or domicile for which the tests have already been discussed above. Accordingly, total income of resident, not ordinarily resident and non-resident tax payers in any previous year is determined as under:

RESIDENT TAX PAYERS:

(a) income received or deemed to be received in India.
(b) income which accrues or arises or is deemed to accrue or arise in India.
(c) income which accrues or arises outside India.

NOT ORDINARILY RESIDENT TAX PAYERS:

(a) income received or deemed to be received in India.
(b) income which accrues or arises or is deemed to accrue or arise in India.
(c) income which accrues or arises outside India if it derived from a business controlled in India or a profession set up in India.

NON RESIDENT TAX PAYERS:

(a) income received or deemed to be received in India (Income which is received in the first instance outside India but subsequentally remitted or otherwise transferred to India is not treated as income received in India for taxation purposes)
(b) income which accrues or arises or is deemed to accrue or arise in India.

In nut shell, resident is taxed for his total income. Not-ordinarily resident is taxed for Indian income as well as foreign-income provided the latter is from a business controlled in India or a profession set up in India. In case of non-resident, only Indian income is taxable.

EXAMPLES OF INCOME DEEMED TO ACCRUE OR ARISE IN INDIA

(i) Income which accrues or arises directly or indirectly in India
  (a) through or from a business connection in India; or
  (b) through or from any property in India or any asset or source of income in India; or
  (c) through the transfer of a capital asset situated in India

(ii) Salaries for services rendered in India even though the contract of employment is entered abroad.

(iii) Salaries payable by the Government to Indian citizens for services rendered outside.

(iv) Interest payable by
  (a) the Central or a State Government; or
  (b) a person who is a resident in India except where the interest is payable on debts incurred or moneys borrowed and used for the purpose of a business or profession carried on outside India or for earning income from any source outside India; or
  (c) a non-resident person on the debt incurred or moneys borrowed and used for the purpose of a business or profession carried on by such person in India.

(v) Income by way of royalty payable by
  (a) the Central or a State Government; or
  (b) a person who is resident in India except where the royalty is payable in respect of any right, property or information used or services utilised for the purpose of a business or profession carried on by such person outside India or for earning income from any source outside India; or
  (c) a non-resident person, where the royalty is payable for any right, property or information used or services utilised for the purpose of a business or profession carried on by such person in India or for earning income from any source in India.

(vi) Income by way of fees for technical services payable by
  (a) the Central or a State Government; or
  (b) a person who is a resident in India except where the fees are payable for services utilised in a business or profession carried on by such person outside India or for earning income from any source outside India; or
  (c) a non-resident person, where the fees are payable for services utilised for a business or profession carried on by such person in India or for earning income from any source in India.

(vii) Where only a part of the operations of a business are carried out in India, such part of the income as is reasonable to the operations in India

(viii) Pension, no matter where paid, if it accrues to a pensioner by virtue of services rendered in India, except in the following cases:
  (a) Civil servants appointed by the former Secretary of State or the Secretary of State in Council be-

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fore August 15, 1947; and

(b) Judges of a High Court or the Federal Court appointed before August 15, 1947 who continued to serve as such after the coming into force of the Constitution of India and where on retirement, such civil servants or judges reside permanently and receive their pensions outside India.

RATES OF INCOME-TAX

non-resident individual is to pay income-tax on his income at the rates which pplicable to resident indivi- These rates are laid down year in the Budget also Finance Act. The present of income tax applicable on-residents are given at dix IX.

REMITTANCES ARE NOT LIABLE TO INCOME TAX

mittances to India out of the e of past years are not liable ax in India. Further, any e received by a non-resident e India and remitted to in the same year is also not to income tax.

INCOME TAX ON FOREIGN NCOME OF NON-RESIDENT

on-resident person whether n national or not is not liable y tax in India on his foreign e or any remittance to out of such income.

NO DEFAULTS IF BY LAW INCOME CAN'T BE BROUGHT TO INDIA

Certain countries impose restrictions or prohibitions for repatriating the income earned there to them. It has been clarified in respect of such income that if the tax payer is a resident and has been taxed in India in respect of his income arising in a foreign country the laws of which prohibit or restrict the remittance of money into India, he will not be treated as being in default in respect of that part of the tax which was due on such income as long as the restriction or prohibition continues.

DOUBLE TAXATION RELIEF

Double taxation of income arises when a tax payer 'resident' in a particular country derives income from a source in another country and such income is charged to tax both in the country of the residence of tax payer as well as country of the source of the income. For avoidance of double taxation, India has entered into bilareral agreements with various countries including Austria, Belgium, Democratic Federal Republic of Germany, Finland, France, Greece, Japan, Malaysia, Norway, Sri Lanka, Sweden, and UAR. Agreements with USA, Afghanistan, Iran, Italy, Lebanon, Switzerland to cover certain types of income have also been entered. Where there is no agreement, unilateral tax relief is being granted by India. Accordingly, any person resident in India will be entitled to deduction from tax payable by him of a sum calculated on such double taxed income (It does not include income which is deemed to have accured or arisen in India even though it has been charged to income tax in a foreign country) at the Indian rate of tax or rate of tax of the foreign country whichever is lower or at the Indian rate of tax if both are equal on the income which accrues or arises in foreign countries and on which he proves having paid income tax.

In case the tax paid is in excess of amount determined to be payable after allowing unilateral relief from double taxation, the tax payer is entitled for refund.

The Indian rate of tax is equal to amount of tax chargeable on total income divided by total income.

The foreign rate of tax is equal to amount of tax chargeable in foreign country on whole of income assessed in that country divided by amount of such income.

TAX INCENTIVES FOR INVESTMENT IN INDIA

In order to accelerate scientific research and technological development facilities, foreign collaboration and import of advance modern technology in certain fields of industry on a selective basis; augment foreign exchange reservoirs through promotion of exports and widening the base of the economy by encouraging the goods of the cooperative and small scale industrial sectors, the following incentives are granted for investment in India.

(i) Investment allowance.
(ii) Initial and multiple shift depreciation allowance.
(iii) Amortisation of certain preliminary expenses.
(iv) Allowance for expenditure on scientific research.
(v) Exemption from tax of interest on deposits in Non-Resident (External) Accounts /FCNR Accounts.
(vi) Exemption from tax on interest payable by Govt., local authority, a financial institution or a banking company etc. on loans raised in foreign countries.
(vii) Exemption from tax in respect of income from interest on certain investments.
(viii) Allowance for development of export markets.
(ix) Agricultural development allowance.
(x) Allowance for rural development.
(xi) Concessional tax treatment to royalties, dividends, commis-

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sion etc. received by Indian Companies for providing technical knowhow or service.

(xii) Concessional tax treatment of inter-corporate dividends.

(xiii) Tax holiday for new industrial undertakings.

(xiv) Tax concession for small scale industrial undertakings set up in rural areas.

(xv) Special deductions for newly established industrial undertakings or hotel business in backward areas.

EXEMPTIONS

Exemption from income tax is available in respect of following important incomes.

(i) Income from interest on non-resident external accounts/ foreign currency non-resident accounts.

(ii) Income from interest on certain investments.

(iii) Income from interest derived from:

(a) Government of India Defence Certificates.

(b) Deposits in Post Office Savings Certificates.

(c) Deposits in an account under the Post Office Savings Bank (Cumulative Time Deposits) Rules, 1959.

(d) 4¾% percent National Defence Loan, 1972.

(e) Interest on 7-Year National Savings Certificates, 2nd & 3rd issue.

(iv) Income received in respect of units in the Unit Trust of India acquired out of funds in the non-resident external account or by remittance of funds in foreign exchange, in accordance, in either case, with the provisions of the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973.

(v) Value of any allowance or perquisites paid or allowed outside India by Govt. of India to a citizen of India for rendering services outside India.

(vi) Income of an individual including any member of his family, assigned to duties in India in connection with any cooperative technical assistance programme or project under agreement of Govt. of India and foreign government received directly or indirectly from that Government or whose such income accrues or arises out of India and is not deemed to accrue or arise in India.

(vii) Monthly payment on 15 year annuity Certificates.

(viii) Annual payment on national defence gold bonds 1980.

(ix) Income from interest on various investments with limits as under:—

Investment	Maximum permissible investment	
	Single	Joint
1. National Saving Certificate II & III issued Combined	75,000	150,000
2. Post Office Saving Bank Account	25,000	50,000
3. 10 years CTD Account/15 years CTD Accounts	120,000	240,000
4. Public Provident Fund	20,000 in a year	Joint Investment not allowed.

The above limits are for the entire period of the account in the name of the assessee or his minor children and wife.

(x) Any salary or emoluments received by officials of the United Nations or its specialised agencies or any other international organisation as are notified by the Central Government under Section 3 of the United Nations (Privileges and Immunities) Act, 1947.

DEDUCTIONS

Expenditures in connection with regular income are deductible while computing total income. For details please refer Appendix X.

TAX TREATMENT OF INTEREST AND DIVIDENDS

INTEREST

Interest on deposits or investments in India (other than Non-Resident (External) accounts/ FCNR accounts) earned by non-residents including Indian nationals abroad is liable to tax if it accrues or arises or is deemed to arise or accrue in India or is received or deemed to be received in India by or on behalf of the person entitled to such income.

Interest income liable to tax in India is computed after allowing a deduction of expenditure incurred wholly and exclusively for the purpose of earning such income, including interest on any money borrowed for this purpose. The deduction is not restricted to such expenses incurred in India only. Any such expenditure incurred outside India e.g. interest paid or financing charges incurred for raising the money advanced as loans is also eligible for deduction.

DIVIDENDS

Dividends received in respect of shares in Indian company are liable to tax in the hands of the

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holder whether he is resident or not resident in India. The company declaring the dividend is required to deduct tax at source at the rates specified in the Finance Act. It should be deducted before payment of the dividend to its shareholders and deposited to the credit of the Govt. The present rate of deduction of income tax at source is 33% which is deemed to be tax paid by the shareholder and credit is allowed to him for this tax against the amount of tax determined i.e. payable by him on his total income at the time of assessment of tax in India.

The total income of a shareholder by way of dividend is computed by allowing a deduction from the gross amount of the dividend, of expenditure of a revenuable amount incurred by him as holds commission or remuneration payable payable to a banker or any other person for realising the dividend or an expenditure wholly or exclusively incurred for the purpose of earning the dividend income.

PROCEDURE OF ASSESSMENT OF NON RESIDENTS

The procedure of taxing non-residents is the same as applicable to residents i.e. non-residents should file return in the prescribed form form latest by 30th June or 4 months from the end of relevant previous year of business or profession and also enclose the documentary evidence with their return. A non resident can be assessed directly or through his agent which may be his employee or trustee or any person having business connection with him or any person through him he is in receipt of income or any person who has acquired capital asset from him. It may be noted that such an agent is legally entitled to be reimbursed by the non resident for the moneys which he pays on behalf of non-resident and for that matter he can retain money belonging to non-resident.

WEALTH TAX

Wealth tax is the tax levied annually on the net wealth of an individual or HUF as on the last day of the previous year known as valuation date. Net wealth is the aggregate value of all the assets except those exempted under the Act and reduced by the aggregate value of all the debts payable. The value of the assets other than cash is taken at the estimated price which it would fetch if it were sold in the open market on valuation date.

In the case of Indian citizens or an HUF resident in Indian for the purpose of income tax, the net wealth includes wealth in India/abroad but, the foreign wealth is chargeable to tax at half the average rate. In the case of an individual who is not an Indian citizen, no wealth tax is chargeable on foreign wealth irrespective of his residential status and the wealth tax payable by him on the value of his net wealth is reduced by 50% thereof.

IMPORTANT EXEMPTIONS FROM WEALTH TAX

(i) Value of net wealth not exceeding Rs. 150,000.

(ii) House property whether self occupied or let out to the extent of Rs. 100,000.

(iii) Investment in shares, units in the Unit Trust of India, Govt. securities, debentures issued by cooperative societies, deposits with banking companies, cooperative banks etc. within overall limit of Rs. 150,000.

(iv) In addition to (iii) above an exemption of Rs. 25,000 in respect of value of the units of Unit Trust of India.

(v) Small dwelling units of less than 80 square meters plinth area and buildings solely for the purposes of residence of low paid employees.

(vi) Investments by a non-resident Indian citizen in the initial issue of equity shares of companies engaged in priority sector.

(vii) Investment in equity shares of certain companies.

(viii) Foreign currency and other assets brought by persons of Indian origin are exempt from wealth tax for seven successive assessment years after their return to this country. Assets acquired out of such money etc. are also exempt.

(ix) Foreign wealth of Indian citizen or an HUF not ordinarily resident or not resident or not resident in India is fully exempt.

(x) Balances held in NRE/FCNR Accounts.

Assets located in India represented by loans or debts in respect of which interest payable is exempt from income tax is also exempt from wealth tax in the case Indian citizen or an HUF 'not ordinarily resident' or 'not resident' in India.

Wealth tax return should be filed before June 30 or within 4 months from the end of relevant accounting year of the business whichever is later.

The rates of wealth tax are given at Appendix XI.

GIFT TAX

It is a tax payable on aggregate value of taxable gifts made by any person during previous year. Gift means transfer by one person to another of any existing movable or immovable property made voluntarily without consideration in money or money's worth. A transfer without adequate consideration or a transfer where stipulated consideration has not passed or is not intended to pass, a non bonafide transfer in the

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shape of release, discharge, surrender, forfeiture or abandonment of any debt, contract or actionable claim, conversion of separate property into HUF property, vesting of property in the joint owner ship to other joint owner also amount to gift of a certain specified extent.

BASED ON RESIDENTIAL STATUS GIFT TAX IS PAYABLE AS UNDER:

(i) For resident Indian citizens or HUF	Gifts of immovable property situated in India and gifts of movable property situate any where.
(ii) For non-resident and not ordinarily resident Indian citizens or HUF.	Movable or immovable property situated in India.
(iii) For non-Indian citizens irrespective of residential status.	As above.

Thus, where a non resident donor makes a gift of foreign exchange by a bank draft or cheque which is received outside India there is no liabitity for gift tax as the subject matter of the gift is situate outside India and transfer thereof to the donee is effected outside India. Where it is received in India, the gift takes place in India and hence liability to pay gift tax.

The amount of gift tax payable is determined by calculating tax at the rates applicable on the aggregate of the taxable gifts made during the previous year relevant to the assessment year. The rates at which gift tax is payable are given at Appendix XII. Concession upto 10% is granted if the donor pays gift tax within 15 days of making a taxable gift. The Return for taxable gift should be furnished to the Gift Tax Officer latest by 30th June of the relevant assessment year.

EXEMPTIONS FROM GIFT TAX

(i) Gifts of movable/immovable property situated outside India.

(ii) Gifts made upto a maximum of Rs. 5000/- during any year.

(iii) Gifts of notified saving certificates issued by the Central Govt.

(iv) Gift to any dependant relative for support and maintenance on the occasion of marriage of the relative subject to a maximum of Rs. 10,000 per such relative.

(v) Gift to spouse (i.e. wife or husband) subject to a maximum of Rs. 50,000 in the aggregate in one or more previous years.

(vi) Gift of insurance policies or annuities to any dependant person other than donor's wife for support and maintenance upto Rs. 10,000 in respect of each such donee.

(vii) Gift under a will.

(viii) Gift in anticipation of death.

(ix) Gift of reasonable amount for children's education.

(x) Gifts in the course of carrying on business, profession or vocation to the extent made bonafide for the purpose of such business, profession or vocation.

U.S. IS BIGGEST MONEY SOURCE

The United States is by far the largest source of the flow of foreign money into India, according to a Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) study that has taken years to complete and which includes figures on both open and clandestine money influx.

The CBI report, according to the Chandigarh-based The Tribune newspaper, marks the first time that such a report on foreign money inflow has included the amounts of currency, the sources and the recipients.

A total of $17.85 million in foreign money came into the country in May and June of this year in either open or covert ways, the report stated, and the U.S. was the source of $8.6 million of that inflow. More than 85 per cent of the total went to Christian missionary institutions.

The next largest amount, $2.95 million, came from West Germany, the CBI report found. The Netherlands was next on the list with $1.87 million, followed by Canada, $1.16 million; Switzerland, $1.104 million; Britain, $289,500; the Soviet Union $224,625; Australia, $142,875; Saudi Arabia, $112,000, and Kuwait, $76,375.

The greatest share of the foreign money went into West Bengal, $6.81 million. Kerala was next on the list with $2.8 million. Then came Maharashtra, $1.8 million; Tamil Nadu, $1.6 million; Andhra, $1.01 million; Bihar, $563,625, and Uttar Pradesh, $450,000. The central territory of Delhi received $1.86 million in foreign money during the two-month period.

Muslim institutions received $541,000 during that time and $391,000 went to pseudo-religious institutions. The U.S. was by far the largest donor to Christian missionary institutions.

The CBI report stated that India's two communist parties, pro-Soviet Communist Party of India and Communist Party of India (Marxist) are believed to have received foreign aid of $241,000 in May and June, mostly from the Soviet Union.

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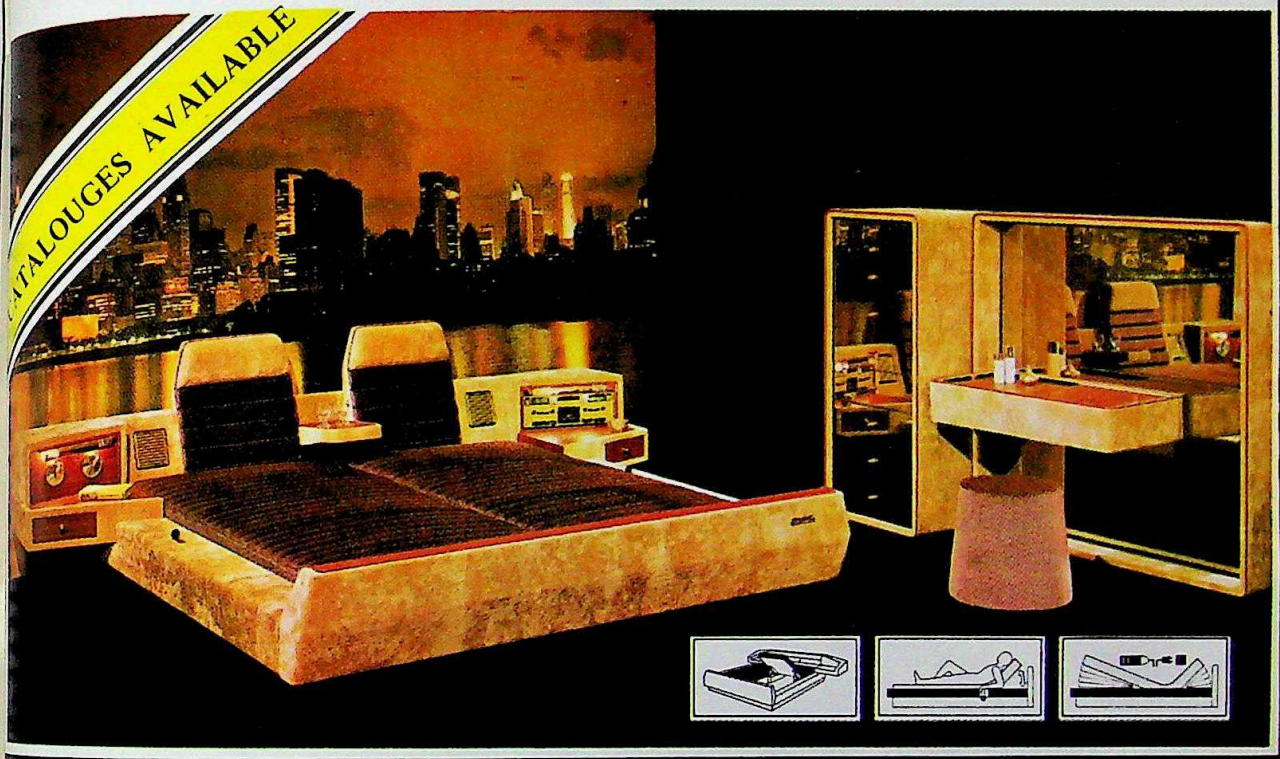
Jet-Generation



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From Filmland

FILM INDUSTRY IS CHANGING

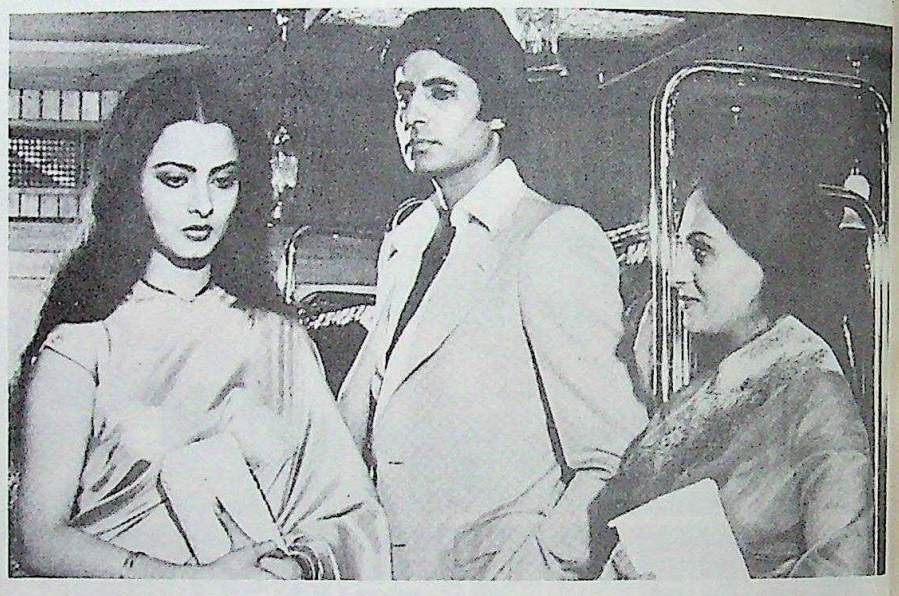
Hindi film industry has undergone a subtle but certain change during last six months. New faces are replacing the old and known ones. Hema Malini complained that she finds no heroes to match with her on screen. Barring Dharmendra with whom she has matched and mated, only Rajesh Khanna looks old enough to be her hero – that is if you disregard his height. Amitabh is *thanda* now. He gave series of flops and Dhesham Dhesham is no longer the fancy. There are no takers for his style of acting. So he got wife Jaya and girl friend Rekha together to try to revive his fortune. It is Agnihotris, Raj Babbars and the like who are seen gaping at you on hoardings all around the country. Story fashion has also changed. Salim Javed western style stories involving fabrication of hundreds of still films and running them at fast speed to produce motion and calling it Motion Film are out. People want films based on powerful and meaningful stories with more romance and some stunt. The same goes for songs. Early style of Naushad and the like is coming back. After a decade of trumping, the Hindu movies are coming to age, to maturity. Actors should act and not be ham. Writers should tell stories. Songsters should produce music not noise. That is the message. Lot of young, new and talented boys and girls have entered films and are showing promise.

Bengali Cinema is in doldrums. Flight of talent to Bombay where market pays better, lack of resources, old equipment and an audience that refuses to accept anything other than Rabindra Nath, Sarat Chandra etc. are some of the major problems. Only Satyajit Ray and Mrinal Sen are there to keep the flag flying. But they are the export variety who fetch better price and more appreciation abroad than home.

Malyalam Cinema saw fantastic growth and many of their movies got made into Hindi as well. Malyalam cinema is sex saturated. Some films were banned elsewhere but audience want films like "My Nights" which are still running to packed houses.

And of course there is Madras Movieland churning out Tamil and Telegu films by the dozen. Madras makes more movies than Bombay and has more audience abroad. And Tamilians are great movie goers. Show them an MGR or Shivaji Ganeshan and they will pile one upon other to buy a ticket to go in the theatre. It is the same theatrical drama, same loud voice and action, same costume, rich persons, paper swords and all that. Standard formula films are produced on the conveyer belt and fed to masses. Rarely but certainly there comes a flash. Shankra Bharnam was one such flash. It is once in a decades movie and got the Best actress, best actor, best music and best movie of the year award. The film is now being remade in Hindi. The film was offered for exhibition in Bombay territory and there were no takers at Rs. 40,000. Now a Bombay producer has paid Rs. 4 Lakhs for story right only. Such are the vagaries of film industry.

KYA SILSILA HAI



A married man, an unmarried woman and wife. Amitabh, Rekha and Jaya, a real life drama on movie.

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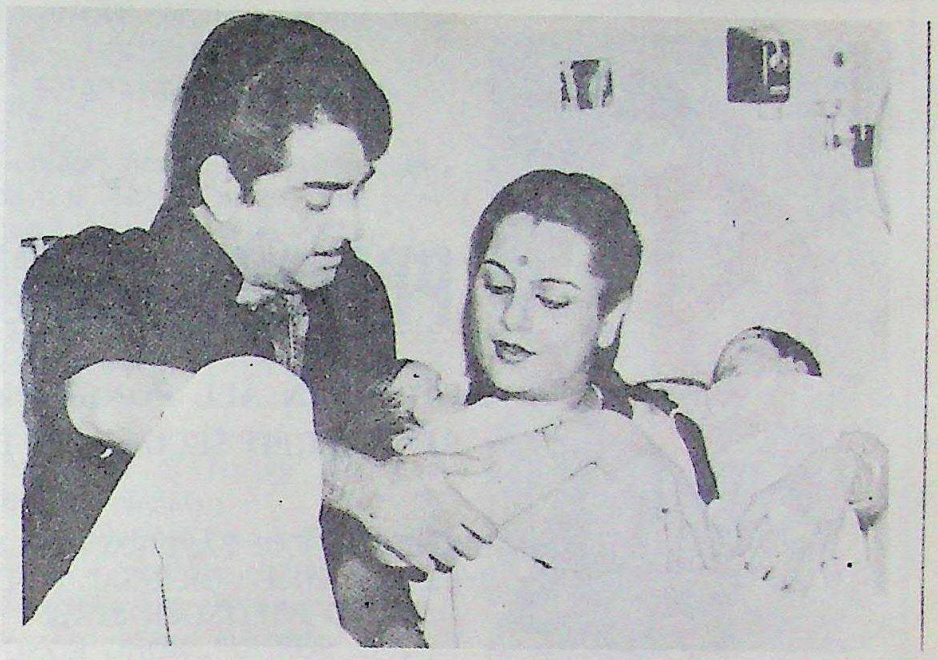
TWINS FOR SHATRU

Shatru and his family have ays been hung-up on the Rama- epic. He's even called his "Ramayana" and all his ers are named after the acters in the famous epic. And Shatru got twin sons, he was to name them 'Luv-Kush' Ram's two sons in the Rama- Shatru was so thrilled to ve the news that he was the r of two sons that he cele- ed by taking his pistol and twenty-one successive shots the air as a twenty-one gun startling all the neighbours process.

SEARCHING FOR RESEMBLANCE . . .



Shatru and Poonam with their twins.

LOOK THERE!

Shanti and Suresh in Tamil film 'Panneer Pushpangal'.

OLDEN LEOPARD FOR 'CHAKRA'

The hindi film *'Chakra'* has the Golden Leopard as the film shown at the 34th rno Film Festival. Directed by ndra Dharmraj, *Chakra* was awarded a special prize by the ral's ecumenical jury.

TAMIL CINEMA

Two collegians in real life nti and Suresh have made their rt in a Tamil film *Panneer pangal* depicting in a vivid way natural urges of youth.

The film is a heart warming dis- of puppy love by young Uma Prabhu. The blosomming ng love is portrayed beautifully out any element of vulgarity. bond between the two school es is simple, but strong. They w their true affection through good behaviour and respect each other.

Youth succeeds where age rs. Director Bharati Vasu in a le way advises the grown ups particularly the parents and teachers to be more sympathetic towards the youngsters and try to understand their problems.

Bharati Vasu is a new talent in film direction and is always proud to proclaim that he belongs to Sridhar's camp. The film which has been released in Madras in July stars Pratap Pothan, Murthy and others.

Panner Puspangal has been artistically and beautifully photographed by M.C. Shekhar. The story and dialogues are by Somasundareshwar. The music is by Elayaraja. The combination of lilting melodies, budding artists and an appealing story is the answer to the viewers idea of entertainment.

— Anita Jhunjhunwala

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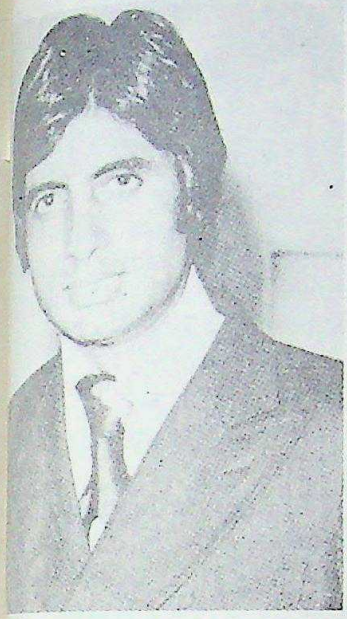
THATS THE WAY I LIKE IT!



…bh Bachchan had his hair cut at …mir where he was shooting for … Chopra's *Silsila* and Raj Sippy's *…Pe Satta*. Guess what the hair cut Amitabh or the producers whoever …d the bill? A cool Rs. 3,500 because …ar hair stylist from the Taj — … Kairanvi — was flown from …bay to Kashmir and provided a …t the local five star hotel for …days since Amitabh wouldn't let …one else touch his hair.

FIRST INDIAN VIDEO COMMERCIAL FEATURE PRODUCED

India's first video-exclusive commercial feature film has been produced and will be exported shortly.

The film, "*Teri Meri Kahani*", has been produced by Mr. B. R. Chopra on behalf of a SEEPZ unit licensed solely to export its entire production.

So far, all video film exports have been of feature films on theatrical circuits.

The film has been well received by those who had already seen it as evidenced by the orders flowing in. The Indian exporting unit's managing director and main promoter of the video project, Mr. S. C. Hira, said that he had planned similar ventures by leading producers in the coming months.

The 90-minute film is a social drama describing the traumatic experience of a child who is told that her mother is dead and a father unable to disclose the truth that she is alive.

HEMA MALINI

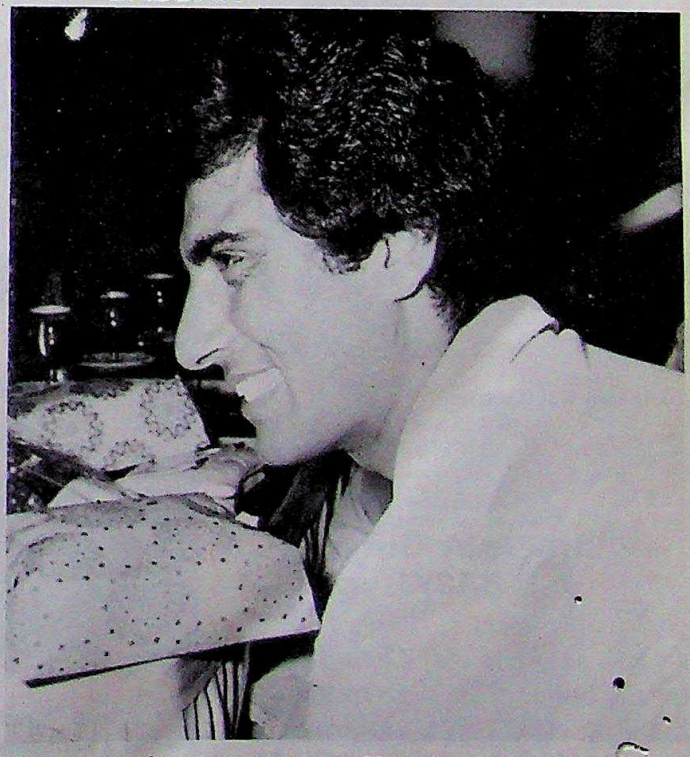
She staged a dance play at Hare Krishna Temple. Dance and Krishna take more of her time now.

The film has no pretensions of a star cast nor of big names in the credits but the story, essentially Indian character, is expected to have the acceptance of Indian community abroad.

…AF KA TARAZOO

…ent singing with Deepak Prashar before her rape by Raj …har in the film.

RAJ BABBAR



A comparative new comer to films, he commands …ce in millions now.

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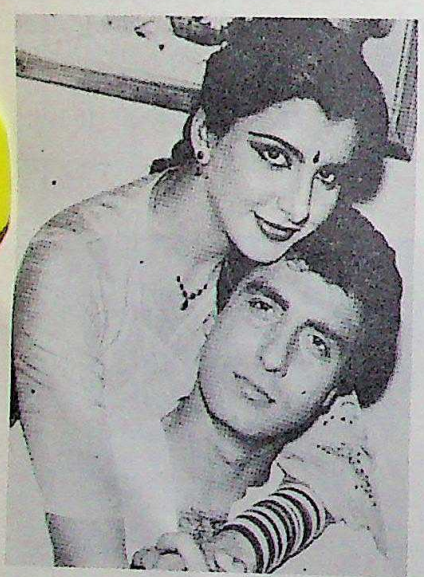
ANOTHER SUPER-STAR

Anita Raj, the girl marked out for super success by producers, directors, heroes and star-maker Asha Chandra, is leaving no stone unturned to make sure that she lives up to every expectation placed on her. *'Prem Geet'*, Anita's first release, was shown at a preview recently, and after seeing the reaction of the majority, more and more producers are rushing to grab her when they can still afford her price! Anita's father and biggest critic, Jagdish Raj, admits proudly, "I'd been a little worried, but after seeing 'Prem Geet', I am really satisfied that my daughter has done justice to her role!"

MARKED FOR SUPER SUCCESS



Anita and Raj Babbar.

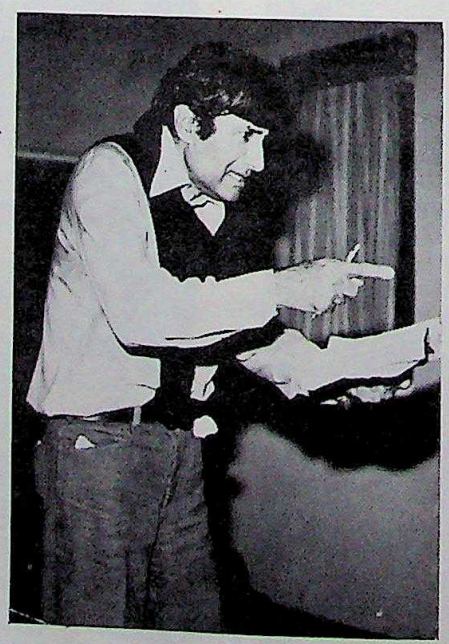
CHETANA GIRL IS BACK!

Old admirers of *Chetana*-girl, Rehana Sultan, who'd given her up as a lost cause when she took to C-grade Muslim socials, will be pleased to read that the actress

Rehana Sultan.

herself hasn't completely given up the idea of staging a come-back in her career. Rehana's counting on giving everybody a big surprise with what she describes as the "best" role of her career in Navketan's *'Hum Rahen Na Hum'*, opposite Vijay Anand. "It's a very different and difficult role. I have to take great pains to do justice to it. Let's see how much I succeed," she says.

SWAMIDADA



Dev Anand directing his new venture. He has a permanent itch to find new and young girls who ditch him with regular permanency.

HAPPENINGS

PAKISTANI ACTOR IN BOMBAY MOVIE

Famous Pakistani actor Nadeem is in Bombay to play a role opposite Praveen Babi in Tyagi's yet unnamed movie. Others in the movie are Raj Babbar, Shashi Kapoor and Sharmila Tagore.

RAJSHRI'S NEW FIND

Rajshri Productions have introduced a new girl in under production movie "Jiyo To Aise Jiyo". She is Debashree from Calcutta and will also feature in other films of the house.

AMITABH SINGS HIS SONGS

Amitabh Bachchan has a good voice. He sang a children's song in 'Natwarlal' which was a run away hit. His songs 'Chal Mere Bhai' in *Naseeb* and 'Jiski Biwi Lambi Ho' in *Lawaris* became very popular. Now he sings "Yeh Kahan Aa Gaye Hum" in *Silsila* which is also good. *Thek Hai Ji.* When acting goes *thunda*, he can take to play back singing. Kishore did it and did it too well.

SON'S GALORE

Dharmendra's son Ajay is the hero of a new film "Heer Ranjha". Sons are in for promotion. Raj Kapoor started it and put his three sons in the market one after the other. Then Agha brought in Jalal. Rajindra Kumar's Gaurav and Sunil Dutt's Sunjay were promoted with first class publicity. Now Dev Anand is pushing in his son Sunil to act. Reportedly Kamini Kaushal and Nutan are also grooming their sons for the film trade.

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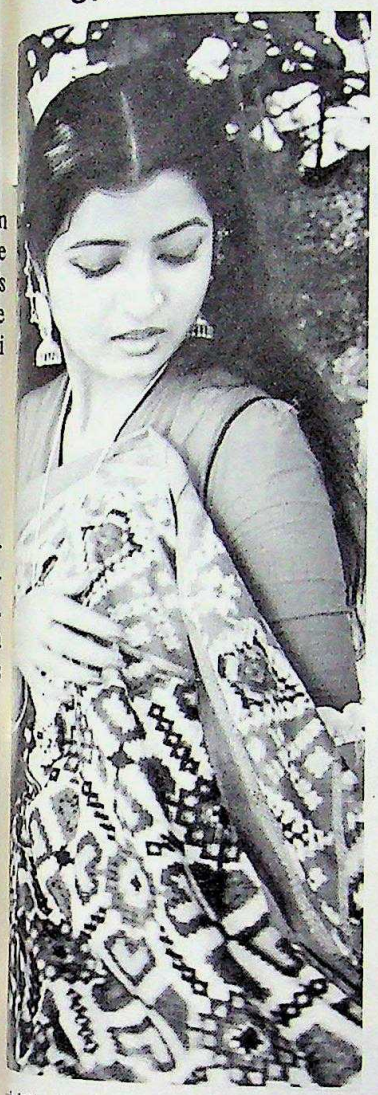
OH LOOK



...ri Production's new find Debashree ...

INDIAN FILMS DO WELL IN PARIS

Indian films have started cap-...ing the hearts of Parisians. Earlier, Indian film classics used ...make an occasional appearance ...some corner of Paris – the city ...theatres, new-wave cinema and ...ion capital of the world – but ...w there are two centrally located ...emas showing popular Hindi ...s daily. The latest Tamil films ...o reach Paris soon after their ...ease in India.

Indian movies by directors like ...yajit Ray, Mrinal Sen, command ...high reputation. Ray's earlier ...n *"Jalsagar"*, recently released simultaneously in half-a-dozen paris cinemas with French sub-titles as "Salon de Musique", ran for three months and earned rave reviews. Following its success, *"Charulata"* has now been revived in seven cinemas.

PUPPY LOVE

Kumar Gaurav and Vijeyata Pandit in a scene in Love Story.

NEW RELEASES

Ek Duje Ke Liye: introduces two young stars from south – Kamalahasan and Rati Agnihotri. The story deals with inter caste and inter state marriage – a north Indian girl falls for a south Indian boy and what happens there after.

* * *

Poonam: is a "rich girl meets poor boy" story portrayed by Poonam Dhillon and Raj Babbar.

* * *

Humse Badhkar Kaun: is a "lost and found" formula film produced on low budget, Amjad Khan, Danny, Mithun and Vijeyta play main roles. Ranjeeta is the heroine.

THE BEST ACTRESS AWARD

Smita Patil won the Best Actress Award second time running.

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Lure of the Himalayas

No mountains in the world strike the imagination to the same degree as the Himalayas. They are the mightiest and the most marvellous in the world, stretching from the Indus Valley to the Brahmaputra Valley. The mighty mountain range are supposed to be the abode of gods.

Devout Hindus in India – and abroad – would have already started visualising the journey to *Kailash* and *Manasarovar* (in Tibet), once the Chinese Foreign Minister announced in Delhi during his recent visit to the capital that pilgrims will be allowed to visit the holy places every year.

Hindus have looked up towards the Holy *Kailash* and *Manasarovara* since hoary times, along with *Badrinath* and *Kedarnath* in Uttar Pradesh, and *Amarnath* Cave in Kashmir – all of them in the Himalayas. For the religious, the Himalayas have an ethereal, almost divine quality, on whose peaks live the gods of Hinduism and from whose perennieal snows spring sacred rivers of salvation. But for the common folk the Himalayas mean the place where there is no life and where reigns the supreme world of snow and ice, impregnable and unconquered. In fact, the term 'Himalayas' means the 'House of Snow' in the Sanskrit language.

Monasteries in Ladakh situated on spurs of bleak mountains have attracted pilgrims to these Himalayan nooks from ages. These *Gompas* have become favourites with foreign tourists.

Photo: I.T.D.C.

HIGHEST PEAKS

In the beginning, there were no Himalayas, but only a vast stretch of shallow water between modern Tibet and the Indian subcontinent. According to geologists, the 'making' of the Himalayas started some fifty million years ago. The shortening of the distance between the edges of Tibet and India crumpled the sedimentary beds, which slowly folded and reared up their heads. The Himalayas are still rising as the hard earth crust continues to exert pressure. Mount Everest has itself risen by about 8 metres during the last 100 years.

Today, the Himalayan range has some of the highest peaks in the world. It has fourteen peaks of over 8,000 metres and hundreds over 7,000 metres. The eight tallest peaks in this mountain range are: Mount Everest (8848 metres), Kanchanjunga (8598 metres), Manaslu (8125 metres) and Gosainthan (8013 metres). Other important eight thousands are Ghasherbrum, Saltoro and Nanga Parbat. Some of the peaks are in Nepal. Everest spills over to China and *Nanga Parbat* (its glorious views

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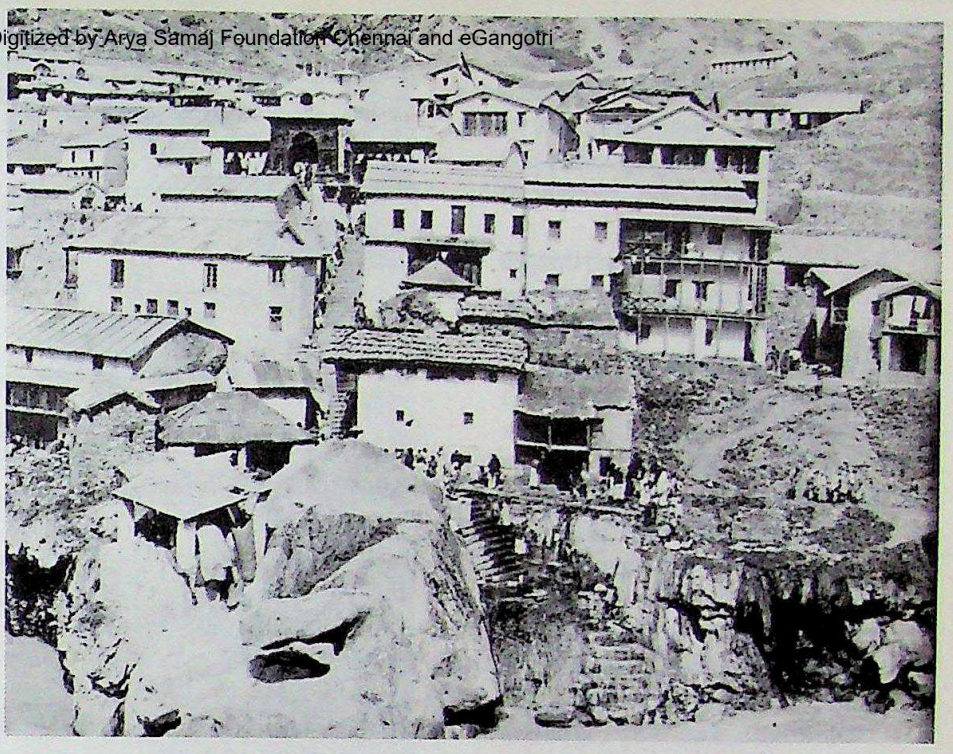
to be seen from Gulmarg in mir) is in Pakistan.
ound by Bhutan in the east Afghanistan in the west, the layas actually cover parts of countries: Bhutan, Afghanis- Pakistan, USSR, China, India, and Burma. This topography s the range a meeting place e major religions of the world, as Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam even Christianity.
he Himalayas are supposed to e abode of a wide variety of . In them are situated reds of temples and shrines d to the Hindus and other ions. Among the famous Hindu es are *Badrinath, Kedarnath, inath. Gupta Kashi, Uttar i, Gangotri, Yumunotri, ino Devi, Manikaran, Amar-* and *Pashupatinath* (in Nepal).

ABODES OF GODS

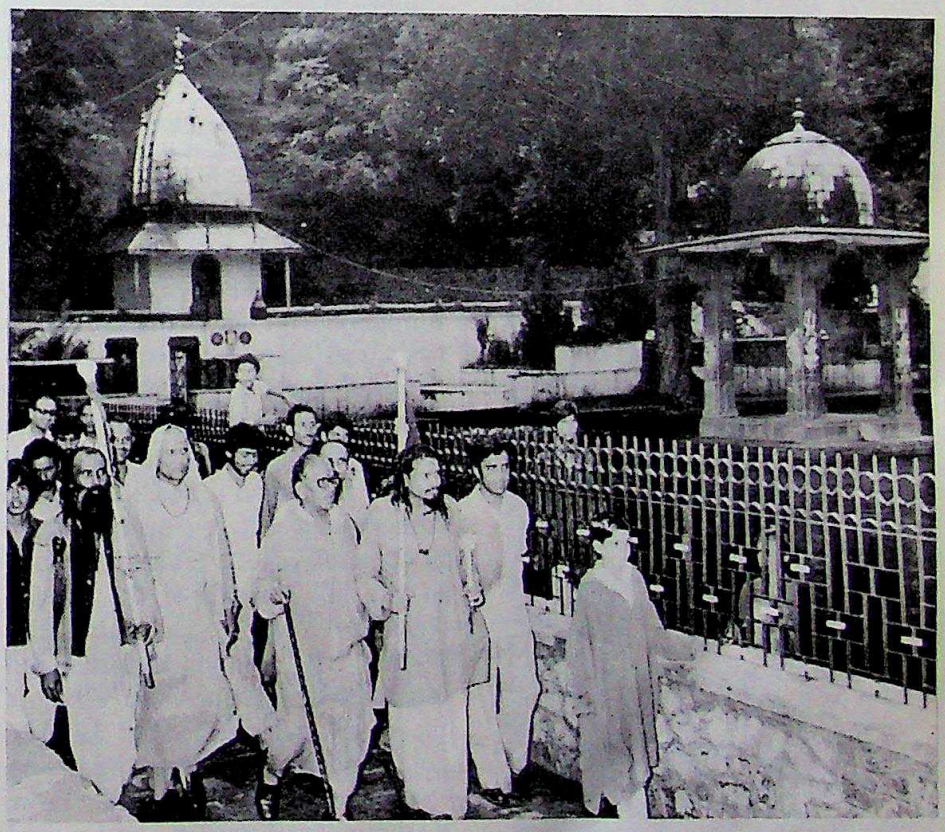
he Hindu Shastras say that no rimage would be complete un- a pilgrim paid a visit to *inath.* The *Rishis* of ages e by, according to *Padma na,* found *Uttarakhan* as the glorious temple of nature, nding in invaluable spiritual ures, with its celebrated shrines Badrinath, Kedarnath, Gangotri Yumunotri. The Vedas were ected together and divided into separate parts of Vyas Gupha Mana near Badrinath. The var- *Puranas* were also compiled . The greatness of Badrinath xtolled in the *Mahabharat,* the *ndh* and other *Puranas.*
Kedarnath is one of the twelve *irlingas* of Lord Shiva. The nd goes that the temple of Shri darnath was built by the ndavas to atone for their sins er the great war of Mahabharata. e temple stands near the head the valley of Mandakini on a el spot and is an imposing build-

The temple of Gangotri (3140 etres) is dedicated to the Goddess nga and is erected near the cred stone where the great



View of the upland *Badrinath* town, nestling in the foothills of the towering *Neelkanth* Peak. Down below flows the *Alaknanda* river amidst Himalayan gorges; it becomes the *Ganga* after the *Sangam.*

Photo: P.I.B., New Delhi.



'Charri Mubarak' leaves Mattan for Amarnath Cave, the pilgrim destination in Kashmir Himalayas from hoary times.

Photo: Kashmir Tourism

Raja Bhagirath used to worship *Mahadeva* and where the heaven-born Goddess first descended upon the earth.

The temple of Yamunaji is the main temple of worship. Close to the temple there are a few hot water springs where the water

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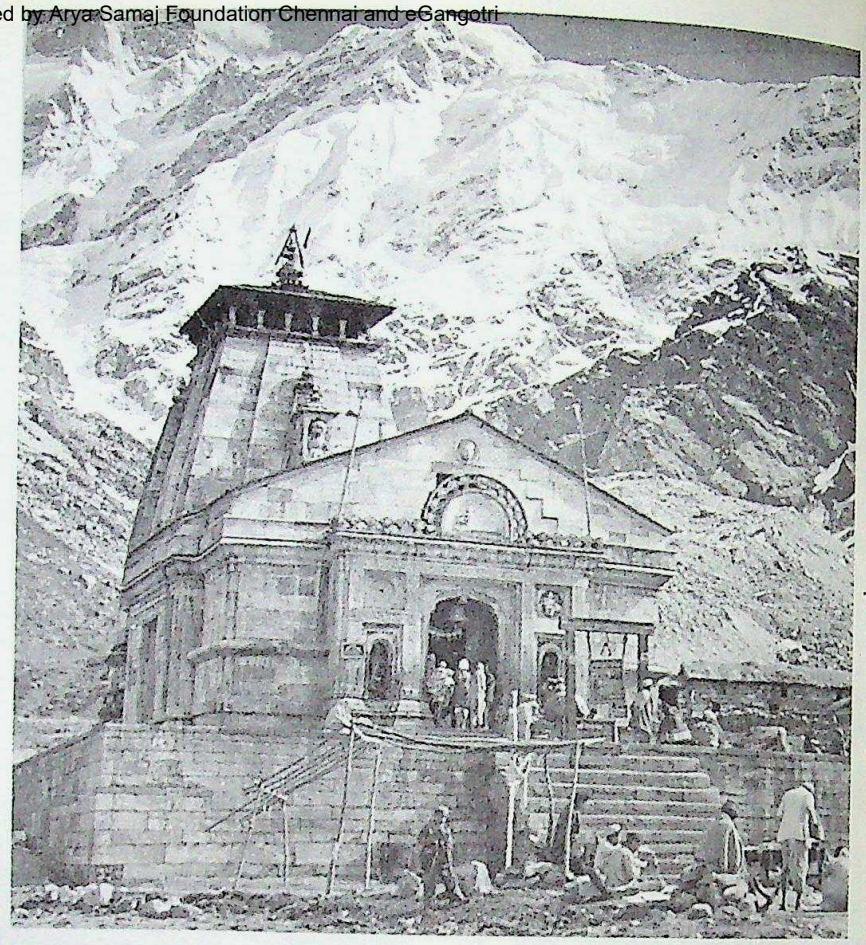
gushes out of the mountain cavities at boiling point forming pools. Of these *Surya Kund* is the most important pool. Near the Surya Kund the valley is highly enchanting and captivates the hearts of pilgrims.

The base for these pilgrimages is Srinagar (Garhwal), reached by bus from Rishikesh – the route remarkable for its steep gradients going alongside the Alakananda steam which becomes the Ganga later on. One also watches the ancient pilgrim routes clinging to the hills which have been superseded by new-fangled tarred roads.

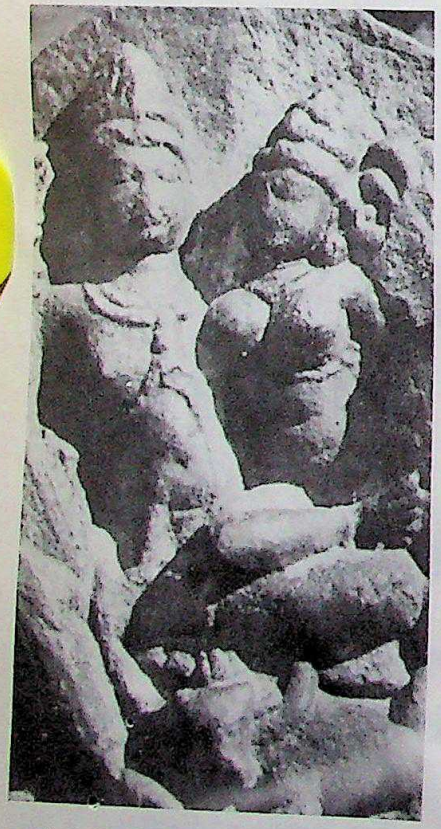
Besides, there are various Buddhist monasteries, especially in the higher snowy regions. Tiswang in Arunachal Pradesh, Bodhnath, Swayambhunath and Thyangboche in Nepal and Hemis in Ladakh, are the most popular.

Over and above Kedarnath and Badrinath in the Himalayas, and Hardwar and Varanasi in the foothills of the Himalayas, there is the pilgrim centre of Amarnath Cave in the northwest in the State of Jammu and Kashmir. Traditionally, the pilgrimage to Amarnath Cave has equal sanctity. Devout Hindus from all parts of India, and some from abroad, do this. Himalayan trek of three days – traversing the most beautiful and awesome scenery and a hardy experience – in August, from Pahalgam, one of the hill stations of the Elysian Vale.



One of the 12 *Jyotirlingas* of Lord Shiva, the temple at Kedarnath, situated on an imposing site, is dedicated to Lord Sadashiva the invisible form of Shiva.

Photo: P.I.B.



***Shiva* and *Parvati* statues at Kedarnath; these too have attracted pilgrims to the Himalayas since hoary times.**

But the Holy Kailash and Manasarovar have been the ultimate places of pilgrimage for Hindus, going back to the times even before the era of the Mahabharata. From Kashmir to Kumaon, there used to be at least 50 mountain passes through which the pilgrims could make the journey. The two passes liked most by the pilgrims were Lipudhura Pass and Niti Pass, the former following the Sarada-Kali rivers and the latter the Alakananda Dhauli Ganga rivers. The trek through the Lipu Pass began at Pithoragarh. Going and coming back, it was a trek of about 650 miles. The distance required seven weeks to cover, with the necessary haltages.

Those who did the long, long hazardous trek counted it as the experience of a lifetime. The trek would end at Manasarovar (at 15,000 ft height) – a vast span of watch, 183 sq. miles, calm as calmness could be, and the blue reflected in the water of the Manasa – a unique, exotic blue. And, when one sees the glory of Kailash reflected in this turquoise blue, tranquility becomes tangible on the Manasarovar. When the age-old pilgrim routes to Kailash and Manasarovar are opened – at least 5,000 pilgrims are expected to form the queue.

– Asha Dhar

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andma's ookery

Palak Raita

gredients:–

ach.	500 grammes
on.	1
ic cloves	2
d	2 cups
und pepper	½ tea spoon
und Cinnamon	½ tea spoon
und red chillies	½ tea spoon
en chilli	1
e	2 table spoon
to taste	

thod:–

Clean and wash the spinach and cut finely. Boil spinach in enough water to cover the leaves for out 10 minutes.

Slice onion, garlic and green chilli.

Heat ghee and saute sliced ingredients till tender not brown.

Drain spinach well and add to the onion. Add a ch of salt and fry for a few minutes.

Beat curd and add spinach

Season with pepper, cinnamon and ground chillies.

Add ½ tea spoon sugar if desired.

Chill and serve.

To make deliciously flavoured rice, add a chicken bouillon cube to the cooking water.

A few drops of vinegar when added to stews and home-made sauces brings out their full flavour.

Next time, wet your hands to shape hamburger patties quickly, evenly and neatly.

The best, vitamin-rich sandwiches for young children are those made with tomatoes, eggs, cheese and meat. For adding extra-flavour use tomato sauce, mustard or cheese with a thick layer of butter as sandwich bases.

Stuffed Brinjals

Ingredients:–

Brinjals	½ kg.
Onions (finely cut)	½ kg.
Olive Oil	½ cup
Uncooked rice	2 table spoons
Tomato Juice	1½ – 2 cups
Salt to taste	
Pinch of pepper.	

Method:–

Soak rice in hot water for ½ hour. Cut off the tops of the bringals (do not throw away the tops) and scoop out the pulp.

Mix pulp with rice, salt, onions and mix. Stuff brinjals with this mixture. Replace the tops and fasten with tooth picks.

Arrange stuffed brinjals in a large flat pan. Add tomato juice and olive oil.

Cook on a quick fire for 10 minutes. Then let it simmer gently on low fire till the rice inside the brinjals is properly cooked.

Sprinkle with freshly ground pepper and serve.

Avoid serving meat pies and pastry sweets at the same meal. Meat pies should always be served with cold salad or finger chips.

Candied peel is necessary when baking cakes or puddings. A good substitute for peel is two dessertspoonfuls of marmalade of desired flavour.

To prevent potatoes from turning into an unsightly dark colour, grate or cut them directly into a basin of cold water. Drain off water just before using the potatoes.

When a jar containing jam or preserved fruit is almost empty, pour cold milk into it, cover the jar tightly and shake thoroughly. Children will love this fruit flavoured and tinted milk!

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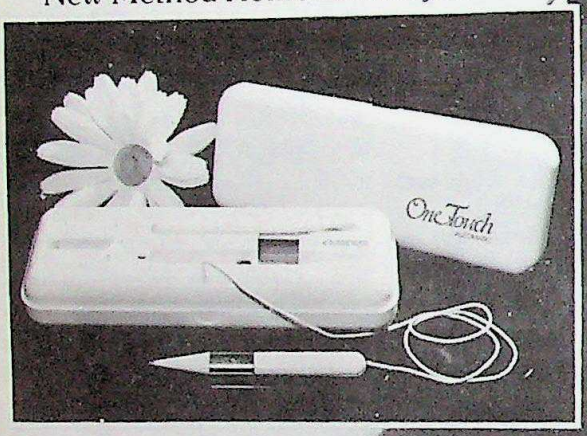

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The "One Touch" Home Electrolysis system. In one step, removing hair at home goes from the stone age to the space age.

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Tours & Travel

COOL & COZY

India Tourism Development poration (ITDC) Transport t at Calcutta has added a new ury airconditioned coach to r fleet. The hire charges Rs. 6 per km or Rs. 60 per r whichever is higher. When d for city sightseeing the rges per head are Rs. 35 for ll day tour.

SHIPPING LINK RESTORED

Shipping services between hakhapatnam (also known as zag) and Port Blair (Andaman) e been restored by the Ship- g Corporation of India. TSS ncowry, a passenger-cum- go vessel, earlier operating tween Madras and Port Blair been put into the Vishakha- nam-Port Blair route.

AI AMONG TOP FIFTEEN

Air India has been ranked mong the top fifteen in overall erformance last year among the ATA airlines, according to the orld airline statistics published y IATA. The total number of evenue passengers carried by ir India in the financial year 980-81 was 1,417,817.

JASS OBEROI

The luxury 'Jass Oberoi' in the historic temple town of Khajuraho in Madhya Pradesh opened recently. Khajuraho is famous for its temples built between the 10th and 11th centuries which exhibit the finest examples of Indian sculpture some of which are beautifully erotic. In this historic setting the Jass Oberoi is situated amidst landscaped lawns, just one kilometre from the temples and 2 kms. from the airport. Facilities at the hotel include a restaurant, a bar, a swimming pool, shopping arcade and amenities for conferences and meetings and other outdoor recreational activities. Khajuraho is the venue for a dance festival held at the temple site around March every year. Located nearby are several lakes for angling and boating and a wildlife sanctuary.

IA LAUNCHES CAR-LIFT SERVICE

Indian Airlines lifted three cars from Bombay to Delhi as part of its cargo promotion drive.

The facility of transporting cars by air would gradually be extended to all destinations linked by the airline's airbus routes, the Indian airlines regional director, Capt. R.A. Williams, told pressmen.

Besides Delhi, the facility will also be available for Srinagar. The freight charge for sending a car to Delhi is Rs. 2200.

Capt. Williams said the ground support division of the airlines had made special equipment and other allied arrangements for the car cargo operations.

The senior deputy general manager of Indian Airlines, Mr. J.M. Vakil, said the difference in charges of transporting cars by land and by air was "marginal".

SECTION FOR EXECUTIVES

The International Airports Authority of India (IAAI) is planning to have a separate section for the benefit of business executives who travel by air frequently, at the new Madras domestic air terminal. This was stated by the chairman of IAAI, Mr. S. Ramanthan recently. "The scheme is currently on the drawing board and we are co-ordinating with Indian Airlines to set up this section at Madras airport", he said. This concept conforms to the designs of some of the highly-sophisticated airports in other countries.

CHATURVEDI JOINS N.Y. TOURIST OFFICE

A.N. Chaturvedi has joined the Government of India Tourist Office in New York City as a director. He will coordinate tourism promotion activities in the New York area.

A former tourism promotion manager for India, Chaturvedi has 24 years experience in the field.

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MORE INDIANS VISIT PAK

The number of Indian visitors to Pakistan in 1980 rose to 93,625 from about 35,000 in 1978. During January-April this year, the rate of Indian visitors to Pakistan increased to an average of 11,000 persons a month from under 8,000 during the corresponding period last year.

NEW AIRPORT

A new international airport, capable of taking large jet charter aircraft is to be opened at Hulule island in the Maldives Republic in November. It has been constructed by the International Airport Authority of India.

TIRUCHI-COLOMBO FLIGHTS

Air-India has resumed a bi-weekly Boeing 737 flight between Tiruchi and Colombo from June this year. The services between the two cities were suspended in June 1979.

KAILASH PILGRIMS

Mr. P.V. Narasimha Rao announced recently that only 60 pilgrims would be able to visit Kailash and Manasarovar in Tibet this year. The government was in touch with the Chinese authorities on the arrangements being made for these pilgrims.

Kanta Thakur (left), Regional Director of the Government of India Tourist Office, New York, recently accepted a Pacific Areas Travel Association Award from Jack Miller, Chairman of PATA's Northern California chapter, at a luncheon in San Francisco. India won the award for organizing a tourism workshop and for outstanding industry education travel to the Pacific.

ONE MORE AIRBUS FOR IA OKAYED

The Union cabinet has approved the purchase of one more Airbus by the Indian Airlines (IA) estimated to cost about Rs. 30 crores, it is learnt. A few weeks back clearance was given for the acquisition of one Airbus. With this the number of Airbuses in IA's fleet will go upto ten. Both the airbuses are expected to be received next year in time for the Asian Games.

FOREIGN EQUITY TERMS FOR HOTELS RELAXED

Mr. A. P. Sharma, Union minister for tourism and civil aviation, recently stated that the Union government had relaxed conditions for attracting petro-dollars, both in terms of equity participation and commercial borrowings, for setting up of hotels in the country to boost tourism development programmes.

Mr. Sharma, who was laying the foundation stone of a Rs. 1.3-crore sixty-room air-conditioned hotel, in Bhopal, a joint venture of the Ashok group of the Indian Tourism Development Corporation and the Madhya Pradesh State Tourist Development Corporation, said a number of financial propositions were under consideration, including some from Kuwait and Abu Dhabi.

IA TO SERVE LIQUOR

Indian Airlines may start serving liquor to passengers on its international flights soon, reports UNI. The government is understood to have finally cleared the IA's long-pending proposal.

To start with, liquor may be served to passengers on IA's flights to Kathmandu and Colombo. The flights to other destinations will be covered later. IA operates about ten flights to nearby countries.

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UNDER DRAGON'S PROTECTION

Picture shows the Air India/Hong Kong Tourist Association's Group A at the Jumbo Floating Restaurant in Aberdeen, Hong Kong.
From left to right (back row) are Mr. P. Deshpande of Mackinnons Travel; Mr. R.S. Muchala of Thomas Cook; Mr. K.P. Dumasia of T.C.I.; Mr. P. Singh of Universal Express; Mr. Y. Pinto of Ind Travels. (Front row) Ms. Leena Jhaveri of Sanghi Intn'l; and Mr. J. Parakh of Air India, accompanied by Mr. Eddy Law and Miss Maggie Cheung of HKTA.

TRAVEL EXECUTIVES VISIT HONG KONG

Two groups of senior executives
n 18 travel agencies in Bombay
e recently in Hong Kong for
miliarisation visit. They were
dly hosted by Air India and the
g Kong Tourist Association
KTA). Several of the agents are
ady producing group business
Hong Kong while the others are
lling individual travellers but
looking into the possibility of
eloping group business.

During their five-day stay, they
ed Hong Kong island, viewed
spectacular harbour from the
k and visited scenic Lantau
nd, which is Hong Kong's
gest outlying island. The agents
visited Ocean Park which is
eved to be the largest oceanar-
in the world. Among the park's
actions is Asia's first captive
er whale, and an exciting cable
ride.

No visit to Hong Kong would
complete without sampling some
the world-famous Chinese
sine. The groups thoroughly
oyed spicy Szechuan food as
ll as some Peking Duck. They
o had lunch at the Jumbo, a
ating restaurant in Aberdeen,
ich is famous for its fresh sea-
od cooked in the Cantonese style.

EXCURSION FARES

Cheap air fares will soon be
troduced between India and Aus-
alia following an agreement
tween the two countries, an
ficial statement said. The agree-
ent provides for excursion and
roup tour fares.

The Australian airline Quantas
t present operates three flights
rough Bombay and Air-India flies
vice a week to Sydney and Perth.
Air-India would also be allowed to
ake part in certain other low fares
and from Australia.

TOURISTS TO PAY IN HARD CURRENCY

Foreign tourists visiting India will have to pay their hotel bills in hard currency, according to an official notification issued recently. The order is aimed at preventing a drop in foreign exchange resulting from the sale of hard currency on the black market where it fetches a premium.

The notification said tourists from countries with which India has a rupee payments arrangement as well as diplomats, United Nations officials, official guests, students and foreigners employed in India will be allowed to continue paying in rupees.

The system of asking tourists to pay hotel bills in foreign currency was first introduced in 1972 but later scrapped.

ARDH KUMBH IN ALLAHABAD

Ardh Kumbh will be held in Allahabad in January. The official announcement said that the Ardh Kumbh would commence with the first principal bathing day on _Poush Purnima_ on January 9. Other important bathing days will be _Makar Sankranti_ on January 14, _Mauni Amawasya_ on January 25, _Basant Panchami_ on January 20 and _Magh Purnima_ on February 8. It will conclude with _Shivaratri_ bathing. 1.5 crore pilgrims from all over the country are expected to take holy bath in 'Sangam' on the occasion of the Ardh Kumbha.

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ell Me Why

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FOR CHILDREN

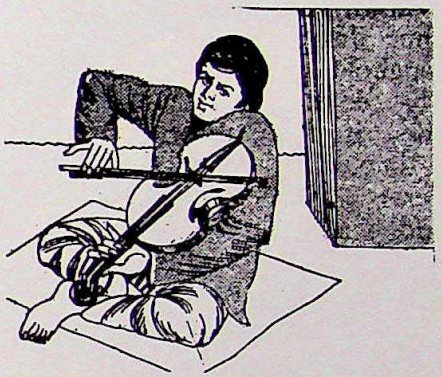
ARE SNAKES POISONOUS?

nly 200 out of 2400 snakes poisonous but their bite can a man. The python is deadly. an squeeze a man to death by ling its powerful body round chest and tightening its coil. n a python eats a pig, the bulge akes in the snake looks much er than the snake's head. But python can disconnect its jaw at big animals.

LOWEST VALUE CURRENCY NOTES

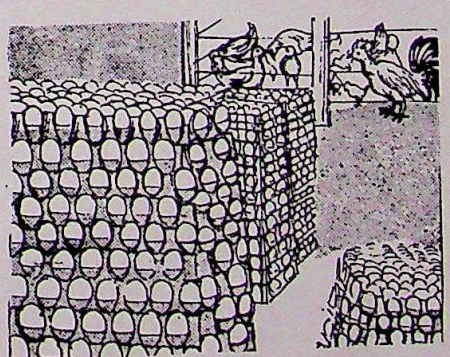
Hong Kong in East Asia has e lowest value currency notes the world. The 1 cent notes ued by the colony are worth out one-twelfth penny.

ORIGIN OF MODERN VIOLIN



The modern violin, a musical instrument of four strings played with a bow, used in Carnatic music is a Western instrument made flawless by an Italian instrument maker called Stradivari in the 15th Century.

TOP PRODUCER OF EGGS IN THE WORLD



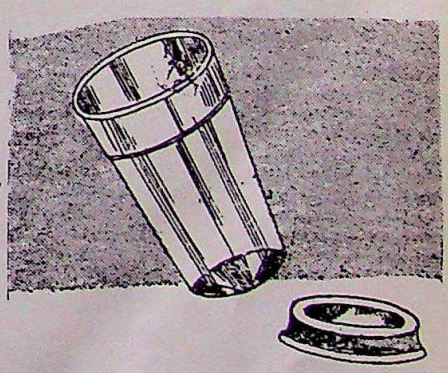
The U.S.A. is the top-producer of eggs in the world. China and Soviet Union come second and third. More than 23,000 eggs are laid every second in the poultry farms in the U.S.A.

OVER 7 MILLION BIRDS ARE TRAPPED

About 7.5 million birds are trapped in Asia, Africa and Latin America each year. 40 per cent of them die on their journey from captivity. Of the birds that die 80 per cent are delicate and very young.

(Source: Animal Welfare Institute, Washington, (U.S.A.).

ORIGIN OF "GLASS TUMBLER"



Glass tumblers which are used today got their name from the fact that they were formerly made with a rounded base and tumbled, being unable to stand. These tumblers had special holders to keep them upright.

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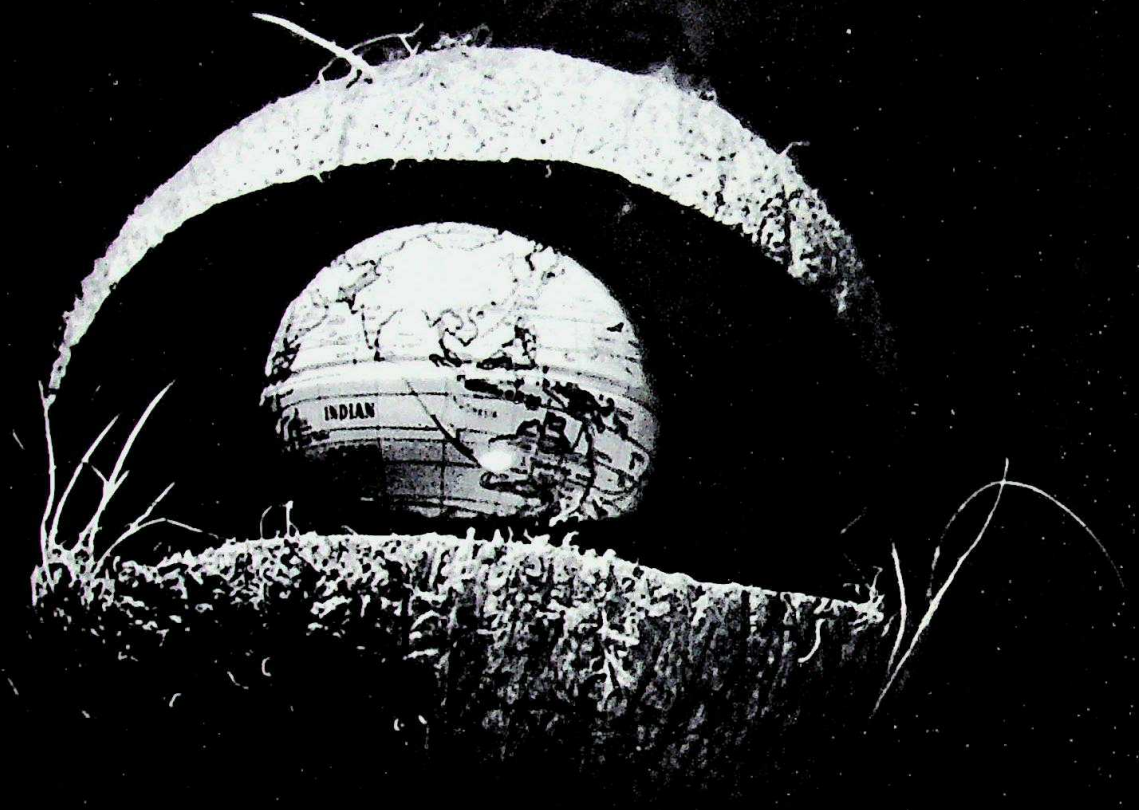
The INDIA EMPORIUM Group in a nutshell



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India Sari Palace	2538 West Devon Avenue	Chicago	Tel. (312) 338-2127
India Sari Palace	8272 Santa Monica Blvd.	Los Angeles	Tel. (213) 656-1155
India Sari Palace	4033 Westheimer	Houston	Tel. (713) 965-0242
India Sari Palace	1329, University Blvd. E, Langley Park	Washington	Tel. (301) 422-6888
India Sari Palace	28241, Ford Road, Garden City	Detroit	Tel. (313) 525-5427
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		Kuwait	Tel. 411483, 422726

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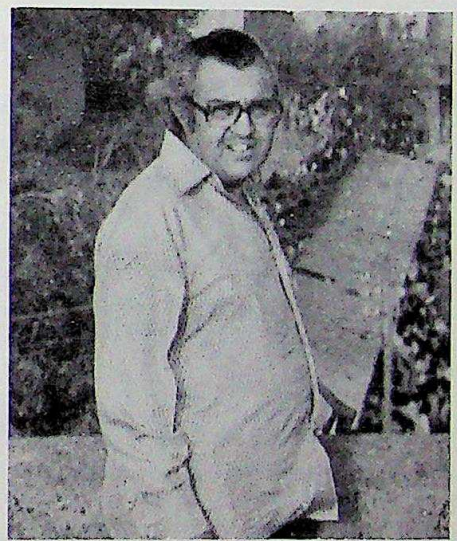
Somnath Dhar

Ranbir Sinh

Versatile Personality

It was indeed interesting to me meet a versatile personality like nbir Sinh at the Golden Sand nes festival organised recently Churu by Rajasthan Tourism. en I heard his running com-ntary in English, Hindi and jasthani on some of the events, sensed that here was someone t of the ordinary. And, sure ough, he was, as I found at dinner at the Poddar Haveli.

Here is a roundup of the many-ed talented career of Mr. Sinh o still has miles to go. Born in 29, educated at the famous yo College, Ajmer, he was for brief period (1919-53) involved films. In 1953, he founded the pur Theatre Group and since en has been closely associated ith the Indian theatre, as admini-rator, producer, actor, playwright, ontributor of articles on theatre leading English and Hindi urnals, like the *Times of India, e Hindustan Times, Patriot, dian Express, Mainstream, Sapta-k Hindustan, Dharamyug,* etc. e is the author of full-length plays *fsos Hum Na Honge, Hesiyat, ai-ki-Malkin, Gulfam, Yuge-uge.* Recently, he adapted echt's "The Good Woman of



Ranbir Sinh

Setzuan" and translated seven short African plays. He has translated Urdu Drama Aur Stage into Hindi from Urdu. The government of India Ministry of Education and Cultural Affairs has awarded him a Fellowship to write a book on Wajid Ali Shah and His Contribution to Music, Dance and Drama.

Keenly interested in Indians abroad, Mr. Sinh worked as Theatre and Cultural Adviser to the Government of Mauritius, for four years. In his stay of four years, he did extensive research on the history of Mauritius and wrote a book MAURITIUS: THE KEY TO THE INDIAN OCEAN. It has been published by Arnold Heinemann, New Delhi. It is priced Rs. 75/-. The book travels forward from early sixteenth century, when the Portuguese navigators, Fernandez and Mascarenhas, discovered the island, to 1968, when the country became independent. In the Foreword, Prime Minister Ramgoolam has aptly pointed out that the author "has dwelt particularly on the History of Indian immigrants" to the island. The book is richly illustrated with plates, some of which have never been published before. This fascinating book—I would say—is an appropriate tribute to the most beautiful island in the sun.

Mr. Ranbir Sinh has also made a documentary on Mauritius, based on rare documents and photographs from the Archives of Mauritius. The documentary is in English and is of one-hour duration. It also deals with the period of discovery to 1968 when the country became independent. It has been produced by the Department of Documentary T.V. of the Mauritius Broadcasting Corporation.

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NIGERIA

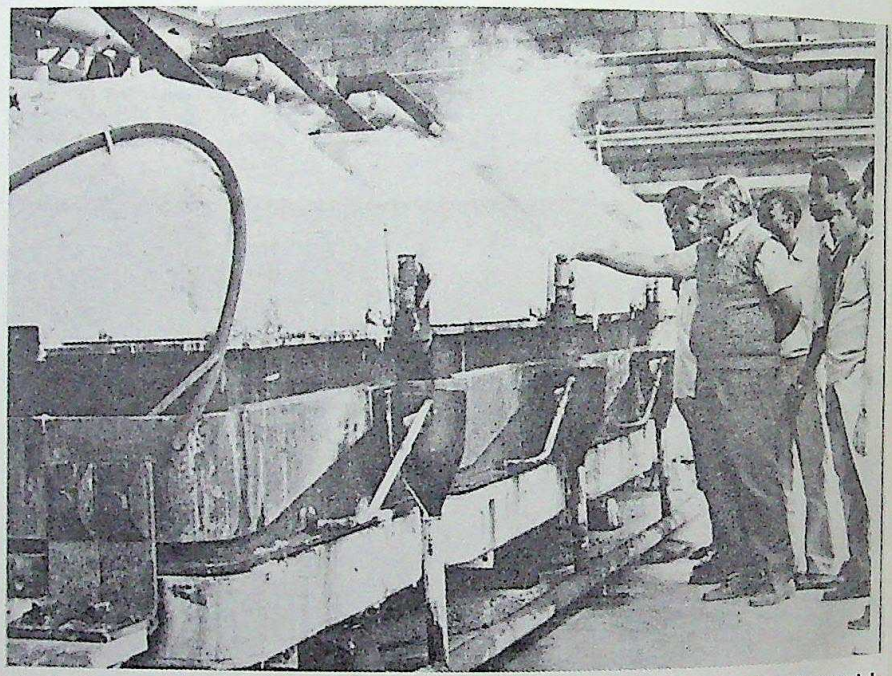
TRIUMPH FOR INDIAN INDUSTRY

Indian business is fast making Nigeria one of its most successful showcases for investment overseas. Last month, the Birla-managed Pan African Consultants was appointed project coordinators for the $5.3 billion (Rs 4,240 crore) Ajaokuta steel plant in Kwara state, Nigeria.

Pan African was helped to get the contract by its chairman Alhajji Shehu Mallami, who owns 40 per cent of the equity and is a scion of the important Sokoto ruling family of northern Nigeria. The remaining 30 per cent is owned by Alhajji Maisango, another influential northerner. Mallami has direct access to Nigerian President Alhajji Shehu Shagari, and this finally tipped the scales in Pan African's favour.

The Ajaokuta project is Pan African's biggest to date. As Mohinder Singh, 54, the Nigeria-based managing director claims proudly: "This is considered to be the biggest steel consultancy job – in fact the biggest consultancy job – won by anyone anywhere in the world." On completion of the first phase in 1986, the plant is targeted to produce 1.3 million tonnes of steel billets by means of Nigeria's first blast furnace steel production process. The plant will eventually have a 5.2 million tonne capacity and be the biggest in Africa.

INDIA'S SHOWCASE



An Indian engineer explains machinery to locals at Nigerian plant: aiding industrialisation.

In accordance with its policy in other fields, Pan African will be bringing all its personnel from India. Several employees have been taken on from the Indian Government owned Steel Authority of India, and many more private sector engineers, technicians and consultants are likely to be employed on five-year contracts. At the competitive salaries Pan African is offering – from $1,000 (Rs 8,000) a month to nearly $4,500 (Rs 36,000) a month in the case of the project director – and with free accommodation, transport and allowances thrown in, the project will have a not inconsiderable impact on the Indian employment market as well.

The Ajaokuta contract will top Pan African's already considerable role in Nigeria's oil-fuelled development. Among the industries entirely conceived, set up and managed by the firm are Nigerian Pipes Ltd in Kano, Nigerian Asbestos Ltd in Bauchi, Zaki Bottling Co in Sokoto, Steel Fab Nigeria Ltd in Illorin, Odun Biscuits Ltd in Behin, and Osunda Bottling Co in Imo. The firm has also won the management contract for the 750,000-tonne capacity Calabar cement factory (total investment $234 million (Rs 187.20 crore),

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the Nigerian Industrial Com-
s Amalgamation Ltd, producing
tal doors and windows in Maidu-
i. Projects in the pipeline include
major new pharmaceutical com-
y in Kano, two flour mills in
chi and Sokoto, and a soap
detergent plant in Kaduna.
rt from Nigeria, the Birlas are
ged in a joint venture with
nda for a jute mill. In addition
e are paper mills in Kenya and
otiations are on for providing
sultancy to a paper plant in
babwe. The Birlas have their
ons for going into Africa
such a big way. As H.P.
ghavi a Birla spokeman told
e opportunities are good.
laws generally protect the
stries, there are tax holidays,
lities for repatriation of
idends (in the case of joint
tures) and ultimately the
tal." In joint collaborations
fit can also be made through
export of machinery, spares and
icing. "Air-India also makes a
amount through our ventures,"
Singhvi. Yet, the company
deliberately maintained a low
file. Says Singh: "We are a low
file people; anonymity is our
nciple. Effectiveness is our goal."
Although Pan African is the
las' star concern in Nigeria, it
not their only operation in the
ntry. Birla Brothers Ltd have
strong presence there: they
e come a long way since their
t project in Nigeria in 1965
en they set up the Nigerian
gineering Works at Port Har-
rt, the largest air-conditioner
nufacturers in Nigeria. Today,
y are chief consultants for the
t central defence workshop
ng built in Kaduna, and as a
ult of their success in this ven-
e, Pan African has been asked
tender proposals for 13 more
itary workshops to be built
the country: totoal worth $156
llion (Rs 124.80 crore).

Birla Brothers Ltd have also
on the management contract for
o of Nigeria's biggest paper
lls: the Nigerian Paper Mills at Jebba and the National Paper Manufacturing Co at Iwopin; each is worth over $500 million (Rs 400 crore). Birla Brothers are earning a management fee of $2 million (Rs 1.6 crore) a year for the Jebba plant and nearly $5.5 million (Rs 4.4 crore) a year for the Iwopin plant. The Jebba mill, which is currently undergoing an expansion programme, will on completion in 1983 have a total production capacity of 200 tonnes a day, nearly five times its present output. All in all, however, it is not smooth sailing always. One difficulty faced in Africa is that projects take longer to start than, for instance, in south-east Asian countries – mainly because of the constraints inherent in developing economies. Said Singhvi: "Very often we have to organise loans for them, as for instance the $250 million we organised for the two paper mills in Nigeria." All told, however, the Birlas are doing very well for themselves in a continent rich with opportunity.

— Karan Thapar

INDONESIA

Bapak Cokropranolo, Governor of Jakarta and his wife Ibu Cokropranolo are seen with some students from GMIS when the students visited the Governor to extend 'ID' greetings to Jakarta's First Family. Standing from left to right are Miss Singh, Miss Lavina Khemlani, Ibu Cokropranolo, Bapak Cokropranolo, Miss Kiran Vaswani, and Miss Gullu Vaswani, Seated in the same order are Miss Gina Mulani and Miss Monica Banatwala.

Mrs. Maya Ram, wife of Mr. V. Ram, Principal, GMIS is shown above greeting the President Bapak Soeharto. This photo was taken when students of GMIS accompanied by the Principal and his wife and some parents visited distinguished Indonesian leaders to extend their 'ID' greetings.

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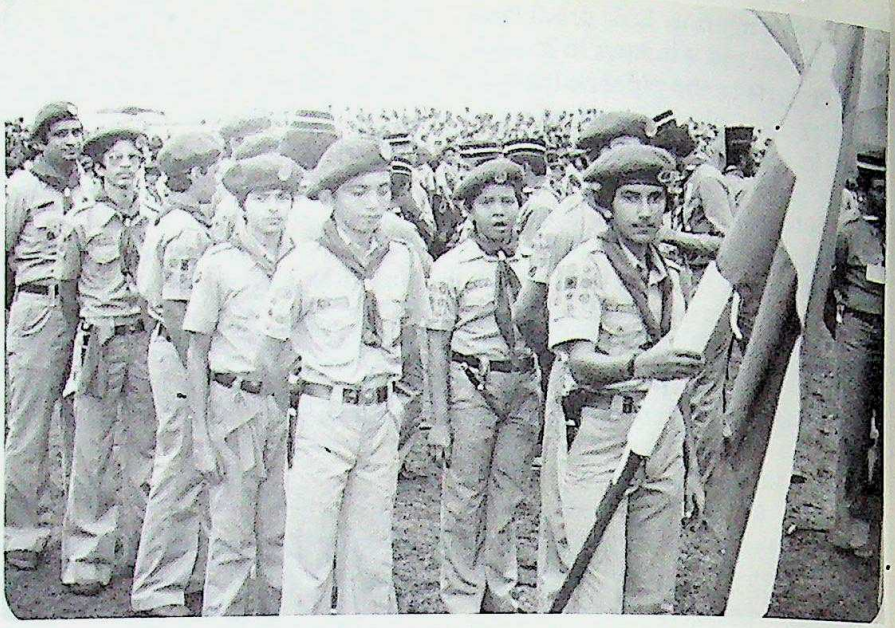
ASIA-PACIFIC JAMBOREE

The 6th Asia-Pacific Jamboree was held from the 20th to the 27th June 1981 at Cibubur Camping Site, about 20 minutes car drive from Jakarta. It was held simultaneously with the 3rd National Jamboree of Indonesia, and was opened by President Suharto of Indonesia. More than 30,000 Scouts and Guides from the Asia-Pacific countries and all the provinces of Indonesia participated in the Jamboree.

India was represented by 4 Scouts from India and 10 Scouts and 10 Guides from the Gandhi Memorial International School, Jakarta. Principal V. Ram led the Scouts and Guides from the School while leader of the Scouts from India was Mr. V.R. Ghanathay.

On the 4th day of the Jamboree, the Indian contingent invited all leaders of the Scouts/Guides and representatives of Scouts/Guides for a get-together at their camp. On the occasion Indian Guides from the School presented Indian dances that captivated the audience. The programme was covered by the Television of Indonesia and was also broadcasted on the National channel.

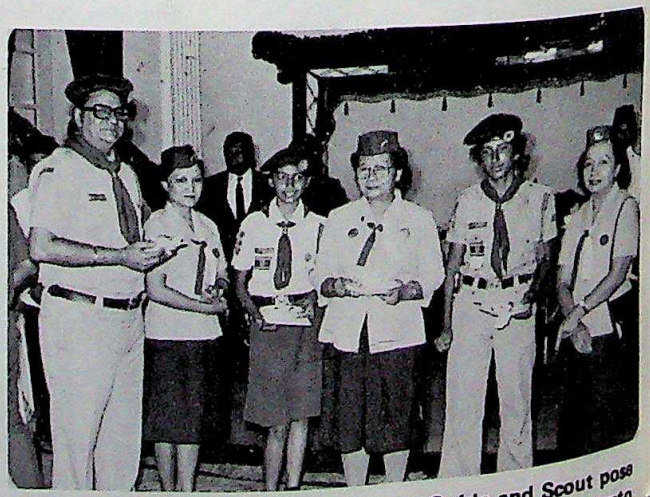
The Jamboree concluded with great success on the 27th June 1981 and was officially closed by the Vice President, Dr. Adam Malik.



Bharat Scouts from the Gandhi Memorial International School with Scout Master, Mr. Thakkar (extreme left) are seen here lining up for the Jamboree.

Principal V. Ram in Bharat Scout uniform (right) is snapped here walking with President Suharto of Indonesia (left) and the Junior Minister for Youth Affairs, Dr. Abdul Gaffur, when the President received participants of the Jamboree.

Two Bharat Guides, Miss Lavina and Miss Jyoty (2nd and 3rd from left) pose with 2 Indonesian Guides in their regional costumes and 3 in their Guide uniform at the camping site



Principal V. Ram (left) and a Bharat Guide and Scout pose with the Junior Minister for Women's Role, Mrs. L. Sutanto (centre).

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Gandhi Memorial International School hosted a
heon for teachers and ex-students who happened to be
akarta for holidays recently, at the "Omar Khayyam"
aurant. Seen here posing together on the occasion are
left: Miss Sangeeta Wagle, Miss Sharan, Mrs. Afiff
ervisor), Principal V. Ram, Miss Pushpa and Mrs. Sheila
r.

Mr. & Mrs. V. Ram celebrated their 14th Wedding Anniversary recently at their residence. They are seen here cutting the anniversary cake as son Mohit and daughter Kiran (right) look on. Other well-wishers in the photo are from left: Mrs. Sham Keswani, Miss Yuyu, Miss Usha Bharwani and Mrs. Wan.

HONG KONG

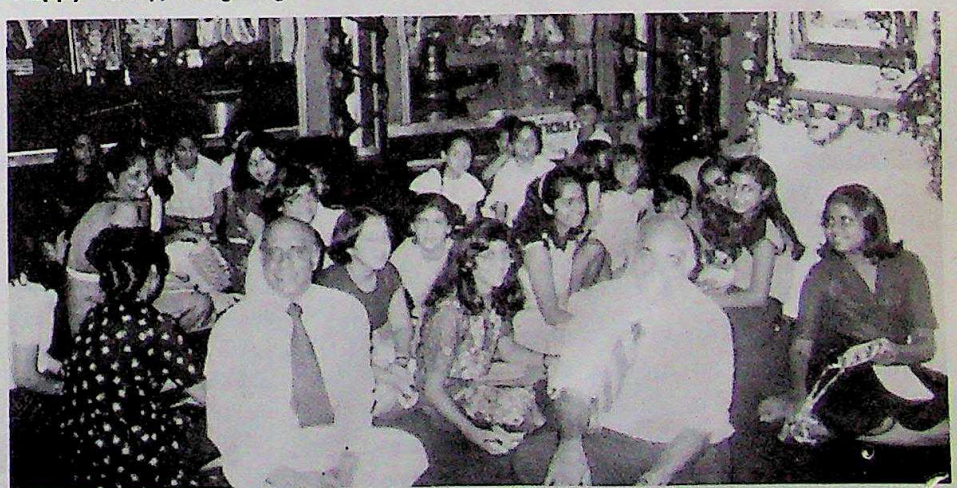
SINDHI CLASSES

The Sindhi Sabha has arranged
'Sindhi' classes in Hong Kong
those interested to read, write
learn their monther tongue,
now avail of this opportunity.
classes are 'free' and are being
ducted at both sides of the
bour.

Mahraj P.G. Sharma is teaching Sindhi to students of different ages at Hindu Temple, Happy Valley, Hongkong.

APPY BIRTHDAY, BOY!

nil, son of Dayal and Kamni Aswani,
otographed on his birthday which
celebrated recently.



Mr. Gulab Thadani, President Sindhi Sabha Hongkong and Mr. Kanayalal Khatwani, President Bombay Sindhi Panchayat visited Hindu Temple Kowloon where about sixty students are learning Sindhi.

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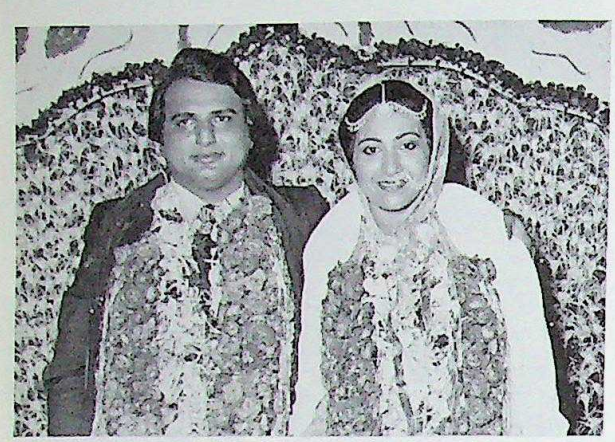
DREAM COUPLE



Dashing Murli, son of Mr. & Mrs. Basantrai N. Melwani was recently married to charming Reshma, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Nari S. Bharwani, in Bombay. Pictured above is the happy couple.

HAPPY FAMILY

The proud parents of the groom Mr. & Mrs. Basantrai N. Melwani are seen seated with their three sons and daughter-in-laws. Standing from left, Suresh and Kamal, the newly-weds Murli and Reshma, Anju and Khelu.

Mr. & Mrs. Sunder T.Vachani of Weston Electroniks H.K. Ltd., recently celebrated in a grand fashion, wedding of their son, Ravi Vachani to Tina Anand, at the Ashoka Hotel, New Delhi.

The bride and groom are photographed on 'their-day' with Mr. Vasant Sathe (India's information and broadcasting minister) and father of the groom, Mr. Sunder T. Vachani.

MAURITIUS

FILM ON INDIANS

Mauritius and India are planning to produce a film on Indians who migrated to Mauritius early in the 19th century and built that country with their sweat and blood. The details of the film, based on a book "Misere. Noire" (black misery) written by the Mauritius Minister of Information and Broadcasting, Mr. Suresh Moorba, will be finalised after an outline of the script is supplied by Mr. Moorba. The Minister held discussion on the subject with Mr. D.V.S. Raju, Chairman and Mrs. Malti Tambay Vaidya, Managing director of the National Film Development Corporation, during his recent visit to India.

PHILIPPINES

SURGEON GETS MANILA AWARD

An Indian surgeon who developed an artificial limb for amputees in Rajasthan was named winner of the 1981Ramon Magsaysay Award on August 2 for community leadership, the Manila-based foundation said. He is Dr. Pramud Karan Sethi, co-developer of the limb known as the "Jaipur Foot."

The award cited Sethi for "his surgical genius and for joining doctors, craftsmen and community in a program enabling the crippled and limbless to resume near-normal lives."

The "Jaipur Foot," named for the city in which it was developed, is improvised from retread tire scraps and uses traditional sandcasting methods.

The 54-year-old surgeon will receive $20,000 as part of the award given to outstanding individuals and organisations to commemorate the late Philippine President Magsaysay who died in a plane crash in 1967.

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PRIMARY SCHOOL

The M.C. Varman State Aided ...ary School of Hindi Yuvak ...a of Leonards Township, ...smith was recently officially ...ed. Pundit L. Sewgolam, a ...der and trustee of the Hindi ...k Sabha was given the honour ...nveiling the Foundation Stone ...ue. The name of the school ... Unveiling the Plaque was carried out by Dr. N.P. Desai, who is a Trustee (and Chairman of the Gandhi Tagore Lectureship Trust) and of the M.C. Varman Trust. Mr. R. Kallichurum, formerly of Ladysmith, did the official opening as well as unveiling a Plaque. Mr. A.I. Deen, a local business man who sponsored the gate unveiled the entrance Gate Plaque.

...N.P. Desai, M.C. of the Varman Trust, unveils the plaque which designates the ...me of the school.

...Third from left, Mr. R. Kallichuram (Guest of Honour) unveils a plaque in memory ...of his late parents. Looking on from left to right are Mr. R. Panday, Mr. S.R. Naidoo, ...and Mr. P.O. Singh.

The distinguished guests of honour highlighted the various aspects of the history of the Hindi Yuvak Sabha culminating in establishment of the present school. Many messages of goodwill and support were offered by His Worship the Mayor of Ladysmith, Councillor B.J.E. Human, the Director of Education, Mr. Gabriel Krog, the President of the Hindi Yuvak Sabha and the Grantee of the school Mr. P.O. Singh and the Principal Mr. S.R. Naidoo.

INDIAN NURSE WINS W. GERMANY AWARD

Sister Shakuntala Bunsie, of the Shifa Hospital in Durban, whose special field is orthopaedic surgery theatre techniques, has become the first nurse in South Africa to be awarded a scholarship for further studies in the field by a German based organisation, the Association for the Study of Internal Fixation. This is the first time that an award has been made to a South African. Sister Bunsie will be studying at the Johannes Gutenberg University Hospital in Mainz, Germany, which is regarded as among the finest for orthopaedic work.

Sister Shakuntala

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FIRST WELFARE COMMITTEE

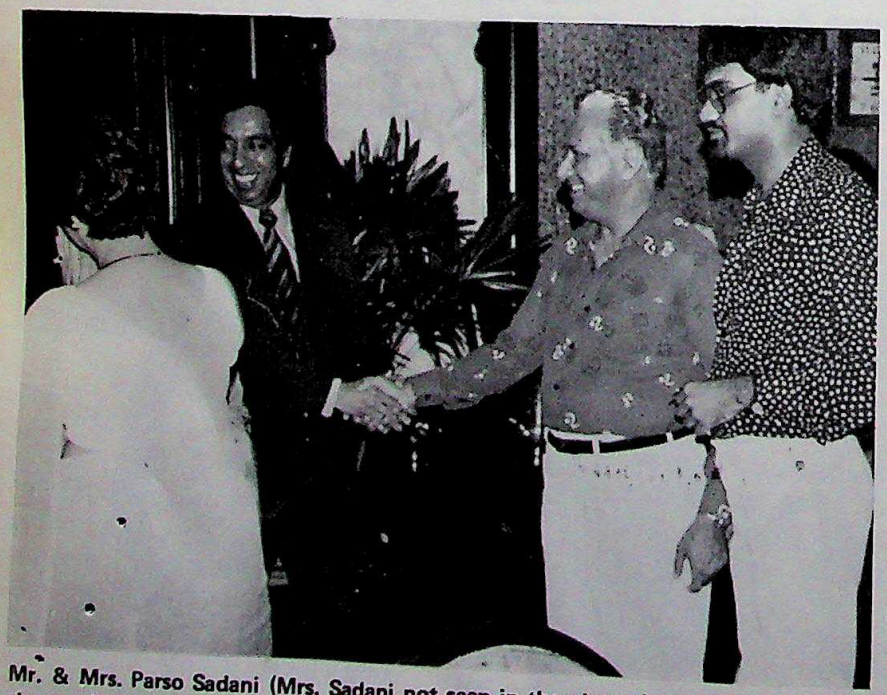
The inauguration of the first Welfare Committee for the Eastern Cape, took place in Port Elizabeth recently. Guest Speaker at the historic function was Mr. J.W. A. van der Merwe, Director General of the Department of Internal Affairs. He congratulated the members of the Committee, Mr. Hafeez Ismail Ayoob, Mrs. Kanta Dullabh, Mr. Chotu Karsan, Dr. Val Moodley, Mrs. Purnima Morar, Mr. Kassavan Padaychy and Mr. Harilal Parbhoo (Chairman).

The guest speaker complimented the Indian community to be inherently a welfare conscious community and said that the Indian Welfare Committee for the Eastern Cape installed, "may thrive, and all those involved be endowed with infinite wisdom, at all times, serving the community to the very best of their ability." He hoped that other communities would follow suit in establishing, where necessary, such welfare committees.

Mrs. van der Merwe receiving a corsage from Mrs. Rhaman Bhana with the Director-General, Mr. J.W.A. van der Merwe, in the foreground and Mr. A.K. Singh, Chairman of the Regional Welfare Board for Natal, Transvaal and the Cape of Good Hope, looking on.

TAIWAN

AAP AAYE BAHAR AAYI



Mr. & Mrs. Parso Sadani (Mrs. Sadani not seen in the picture) are being received at the party thrown by the former President of Indian Association, Mr. Tulsi Vassanani and Mrs. Vassanani.

SISTERLY HUG

Mrs. Mohini Samtani, who presented 'momento' to Mrs. Sheelu Vassanani on behalf of the 'Bradri' could not resist showing her affection towards the departing member of their *Bradri*.

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NDLE LIGHT DINNER

roup of Taipei Indians enjoying dinner during one of their recent get-togethers.

USSR

UMUD'S COCKTAILS

s Kumud Joshi, Deputy Minister of Information and Broadcasting and Leader of Indian Delegation to XII International Film Festival in Moscow, held a reception Hotel Rossiya during the festival in Moscow. Photo shows from left — Mr. Beginin, presentative of Sovexpo, Mrs. Amina Ahuja, wife of Ambassador of India to USSR, F.T. Ermash, Chairman of the USSR State Committee for Cinematography, s Kumud Joshi and actor Sanjay Khan.

PRO-COMMUNIST BHUPESH, DIES

Veteran Communist politician Bhupesh Gupta, 66, died in a Moscow hospital on August 6, an Indian Embassy spokesman announced. Gupta, one of India's best-known political figures, came to Moscow last month to seek medical treatment for an undisclosed illness.

Gupta, a long-serving member of the Rajya Sabha, was a leading member of the pro-Moscow Communist Party of India. A lawyer, he became a Communist in the 1930s.

His body was later flown to India.

MONOGRAPH ON R.K. NARAYAN

A book in the series, "Writers and Scientists of the Orient", recently published in Moscow describes the life and work of the Sahitya Akademy Award Winner, R.K. Narayan, whose novels and short stories have been translated into Russian and are very popular with Soviet readers.

The book has been written by Yelena Kalinnikova, a research worker of the Institute of Oriental Studies of the USSR Academy of Sciences, who, for some 20 years, has been studying literature written in English by Indian authors. The book has been brought out by the Main Department of Oriental Studies of Nauka Publishers in an edition of 4,000 copies.

According to Kalinnikova, the works of R.K. Narayan are based on the rich world of South Indian culture and literature, especially on legends from Tamil and Sanskrit epos, the great "Tirukkural" and "Vedas", all of them being translated into Russian as well.

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BENEGAL PRESS MEET

'NAANI MAA' BAGS PRIZE

"Naani Maa", a Children's Film Society movie directed by Parvati Menon, has bagged two prizes at the recently-concluded 12th international film festival at Moscow. The film was awarded a special diploma and a prize of the ministry of education, USSR, for being the best comedy film.

INDIAN CUISINE

The Ramayana, a restaurant offering Indian cuisine has opened in Moscow, says Tass. Indian chefs, who brought several recipes with them to Moscow familiarised their Soviet colleagues with the secrets of their cuisine.

At the XII International Film Festival in Moscow where Shyam Benegal's film 'Kalyug' was Indian Competition entry, the Director (2nd from right) held a press conference. Others seen from left are the well-known actress, Miss Supriya Pathak and Mrs. Malati Tambya Vaidya, the National Film Finance Corporation Chief.

ETHIOPIA

FAREWELL TO A PHILANTHROPIST

The Indian Community of Addis Ababa recently got-togehter to bid farewell to a gentle and generous personality, the prominent Ethiopian Coffee Exporter, and partner of Messers J.J. Kothari and Co. (Ethiopia) Ltd., Shri Ramniklal J. Kothari. Before the departure of Shri Ramniklal, members of the executive committee of the Indian Association had gathered at the Indian National School. Apart from the members, Mr. B.P. Singh, First Secretary in the Embassy of India, President of the Indian Association Shri Motibhai S. Patel, were there to thank Shri Kothari's contribution towards the school.

Kotharis are the permanent trustees of the Indian National School, since 1966. It was Kotharis

Mr. Ramniklal J. Kothari presenting a cheque of Ethiopian Birr. 100,000 to H.E. Comrade Girma Yilma, Minister of Information and National Guidance and Chairman of the Propaganda and Aid at the Ministry of Education.

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made possible to set up ratory facilities and made avail- set of encyclopedia for the ol. Before departing, Shri niklal donated Ethiopian Birr. for the welfare of the Indian onal School. Shri Kothari's rosity has never been limited the Indian Community only. has always stood in forefront the all the humanitarian causes, in Ethiopia or India. He was onoured by the Ethiopian rnment in 1972 by con- ng on him a "Gold Medal", est award of the Nation, in gnition of his services. Re- ly Shri Kothari donated a que of Ethiopian Birr. 100,000 ards the National Literacy paign, to H.E. Comrade Girma a, Minister of Information National Guidance at a brief mony held in presence of the ari family, Shri Shashikant P. h and members of the Central mittee of the National Literacy paign.

— Pravin Desai

Mrs. Jayabahen Ramniklal Kothari shaking hands with the Comrade, during the 'cheque handing' ceremony.

The Indian Community School of Addis Ababa recently celebrated its annual day at the Indian Embassy Club's auditorium. The children of the school presented a variety show in presence of the Indian Ambassador H.E. P.K. Budhwar. Small kids are photographed during a group song presentation.

nari Jayshri V. Mistry, performing Indian classical dance on the annual hool day of Indian National School.

IN PARTY MOOD

Indian Air-Naval and Military Attache Col. R.P. Rama Chandra Naidu and Mrs. Usha Naidu, recently hosted a cocktail reception at their residence. Seen above on the occasion are Kenyan Air-Navy and Military attache Col. P.N. Ramoyor, Mrs. Naidu, Mrs. Ramoyor and Col. Naidu.

Photos: Pravin Desai

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SAGAR IN KENYA

India's famous film producer, director and writer, Ramanand Sagar has just finished scouting for locales in Kenya for his forthcoming film *Romance*. Speaking from his room at the New Stanley at Nairobi, Ramanand Sagar said, "I have been most impressed with the beauty of Kenya and I have seen exciting location here. I was specially attracted by game lodges, specially The Ark which has got a very beautiful and luxurious setting deep into the heart of the jungle."

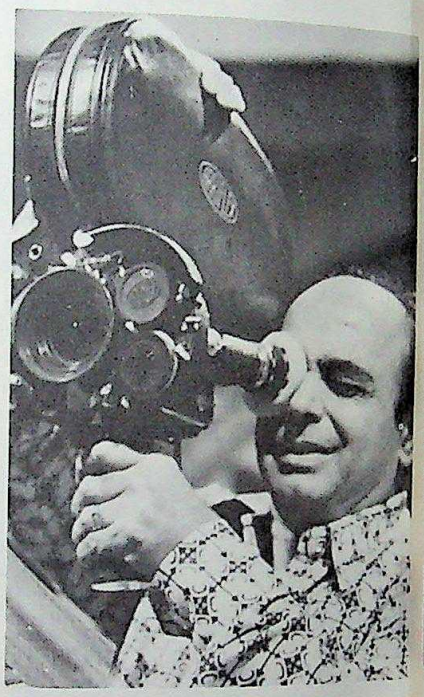
Sagar has had discussions with Mr. Sharad Patel, Managing Director of Film Corporation of Kenya, and complemented him on the production of the Idi Amin film which he called a "hit" and well executed film. "The film was a mature production considering it was a maiden effort of this Kenyan producer. I was carried away by the film and its professional treatment," he said.

He is currently visiting Whitesands Hotel in Mombasa to look for some more locales for his shots at the coast. He also intends to meet officials of Kenya Film Corporation and the Ministry to get first hand information for shooting his film in Kenya.

Within a few weeks, he is, expecting to premier his new film *Bagawat* and this will be followed by *Kohinoor and Arman*. Sagar switched over from journalism to film making after producing a couple of best sellers in printed form. He produced the classic *Barsat*, with Nargis and Raj Kapoor. A string of box office smash hits followed with *Badi Bahu, Paigham, Arzoo, Ankhen, Geet, Lalkar, Jalte Badan, Hamrahi, Charas, Ram Bharose, Prem Bandhan, Hum Tere Ashiq Hain, Sangdil, Insanyaat, Zindgi.* Most of these films celebrated silver jubilee and established him as one of the top producer director in the Indian film world. He has spent over three decades making films.

Why do you make films? "Films are the most powerful media of mass communication. In India if I portray my thoughts in a book, the readership is limited to a few blessed educated masses who already can think for themselves due to their background. The rickshaw pullers, the labourers, the mill workers and millions of other for whom life has never unfolded its philosophical ideals, can be touched deep through this media," he said, "Hence, in my films I always portray the goodness of the humansouls. To attract the common masses we have to make films full of entertainment and in the undercurrent present our idealistic views. It has to be a sugar coated pill you know." said Ramanand Sagar.

Sagar is a wellknown figure as a writer producer and director. He gave up editing of popular vernacular paper 'Milap' to turn to film making. So he brings the insight of a journalist and reporting to his film making.



Sagar — viewing tunnel of love . . .

Talking about his new film *Bagawat* which means revolution, he said "Its about an arrogant princess who falls in love with a beautiful gipsy. The feudal king Amjad Khan and Dharmendra the hero, stages his *Bagawat*".

Ramand Sagar started out as a truck cleaner, carting bricks down dusty trails, checking the oil level. He grew tired of that, so launched out into soap making. Then he became a stenographer, took down furiously shorthand notes in long hand and his employer never found out. But taking down the boss's dictation wasn't the kind of writing this young man wanted to do, so he dabbled around, with free lancing and finally worked his way

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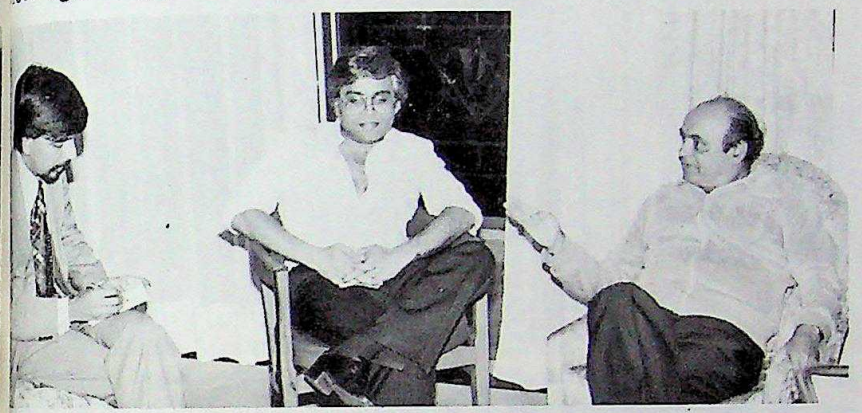
editorial staff of *Milap*, an daily in Lahore. Life was ing to turn pleasantly smug, one night they discovered e had a tubercular patch on g. In those days T.B. virtual- nt the end.

manand Sagar spent agonising in the antiseptic interiors of atorium in Gulmarg. Locked l walls for months, he made st effort to renews contact ife – through words this time. ote agonisingly churning out the very juices of his life's experiences, believing it was the last he could give of himself.

Somehow he survived and came out an author. His writings published under the head "Diary of a T.B. patient" won him considerable respect in Urdu literary circles. Continuing with his journalstic career, he worked on a film weekly entitled *Koel* but half-way down the project got shelved because the heroine died of T.B. Just like those *desi* films.



manand Sagar famous film director-producer and writer (right) is being intered by Ashok Bharti (left). In the centre is Mr. Sharad Patel, Chairman of Kenya Corporation of Kenya.

He kept tinkering around in Bombay seeking other openings in films. Around 1950 came the big break. He wrote the story and screenplay for *Barsaat* – smouldering romance set in Kashmir. Sagar was obviously in his element with the subject, the film was a resounding success, so after years of drifting Ramanand Sagar dropped anchor at the city of Bombay. Thirty years later, he's still there.

Down the years, his critics have accused him of making films with a tunnel-eye view. The same "powder-n-patch" love stories with ten songs dull, facile filmfare. He counters all such criticisms with an impatient wave of his hand. "Of course my films deal with love, with human relationships, what greater driving force is there." he says. "I haven't known any. Even life flowers out of love. Nothing inspires more acutely," he says, "The rest is affectation, not spontaneous . . ." said Ramananad Sagar.

– Kul Bhushan

DENMARK

INDIAN ARTISTS PERFORM

Mrs. Sarojini and Mr. Shyam from Sarjoj Kalaniketan School Musical Dance, Rurkela Orissa, ed Copenhagen recently and concerts in the premises of the an Embassy. The Pati couple been awarded in 1974 in Lon- at the 2nd International Youth ference for their dance per- mance. Since then, they have ted West Germany, France, gium, Netherland and other ts of Europe when their visits re sponsered by Lions Club of Germany, Air-India, Sikh Tem- of London and other organisa- s. This recent visit being once again sponsored by the Lions Club of W. Germany and the Indian Association of Gothenburg in Sweden.

Mr. & Mrs. S. Pati during one of their concerts.

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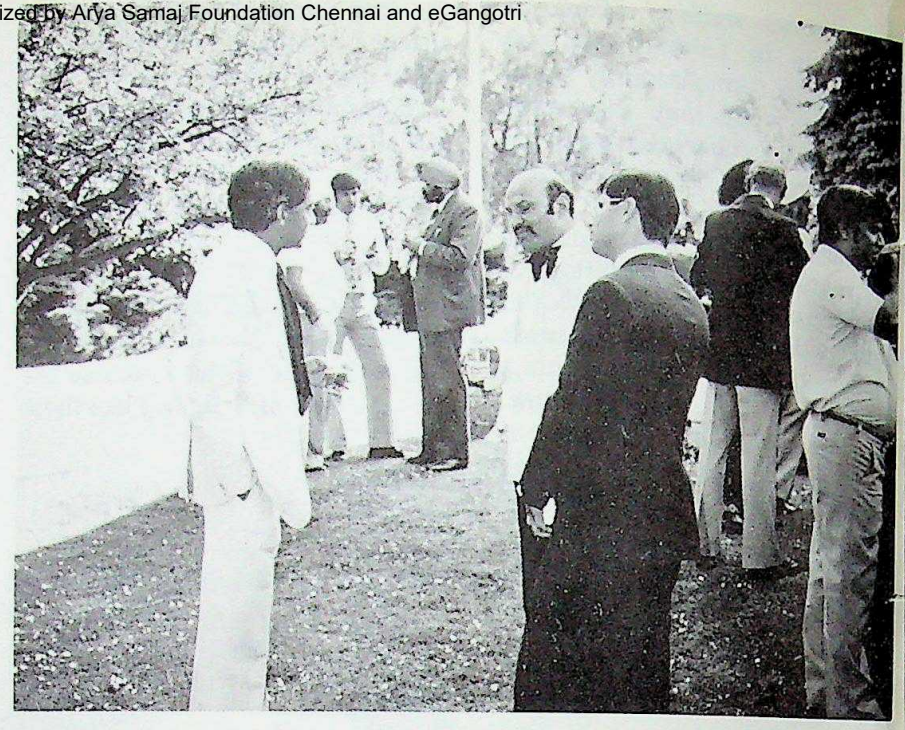
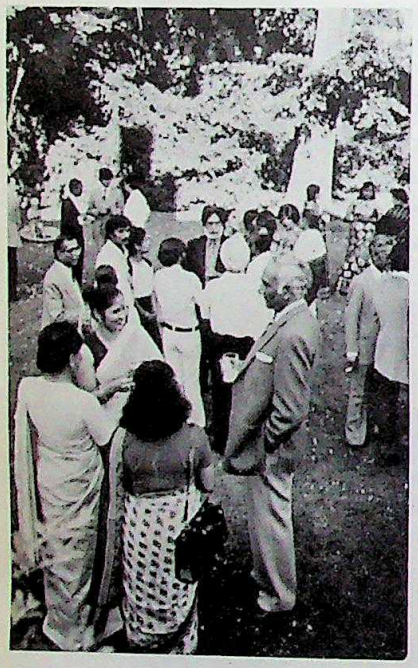
COMMUNITY GET-TOGETHER

The Ambassador of India to Denmark Mr. Prem Shankar and Mrs. Tania Shankar recently gave a Cocktail Reception at their residence to meet the Indian Community residing in Denmark. Mr. Gurbachan Singh the Ambassador of India to Switzerland (Bern) was also present at the cocktails with his wife.



Mr. Prem Shankar, India's Ambassador to Denmark is seen chatting with Mr. Ahluwalia of Taj Restaurant and Mr. Harwani.



A group of Indians at the same cocktail reception.

Mr. Gurbachan Singh, India's Ambassador to Bern Swiss is photographed among the Indians at the Cocktails given by Ambassador Prem Shankar.

Photos: M. Harwani

ASSOCIATION OF BUSINESSMEN

The Indian Embassy in Copenhagen has taken the initiative to unite the Indian Business Community in Scandinavia. An association has been formed under the guidance of Mr. O.P. Shahria the First Secretary in the Embassy of India. The association is named as the 'Association For The Indian Businessmen'. Mr. Shahria has been nominated as the President. The main objectives of the Association are to organise meeting with visiting Indian Trade Officials, Commercial Delegations and Businessmen to promote the trade between India and Denmark, consider possibilities of advertising of existing Indian business in Denmark in joint publications, getting Indian promotional organisations in Europe to join such venture, of having joint facilities for the Indian business community for warehousing, offices, display of goods and of having Indian bank in Copenhagen.

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THAILAND

VEL PEOPLE

G.J. Kamble, Director GITO Bangkok, recently hosted Cocktail reception at the oyan Hotel (popularly known as Narai Hotel) to welcome Mr. Ravi Mani, the new ger of Air-India. Photographed on the occasion are from left — Mrs. P. Nuan , Director N.C. Travel Centre, Mr. Ravi Mani, Mrs. Sasithorn Thanarat, Managing ctor Union Travel Service, Mr. Raj Kumar Sachadev (Khun Sutham), Managing ctor S.S. Travel Service and Mr. Kamble.

HAND FOR THE SWEET ONE

t Singh and Pavitra Kaur are photographed on their wedding reception, held at a Ball Room of the Narai Hotel. Mr. Vasant K. Saraf and Mrs. Shivanath Rai ssed the couple amidst 400 guests, friends and relatives, turned up to wish the ple.

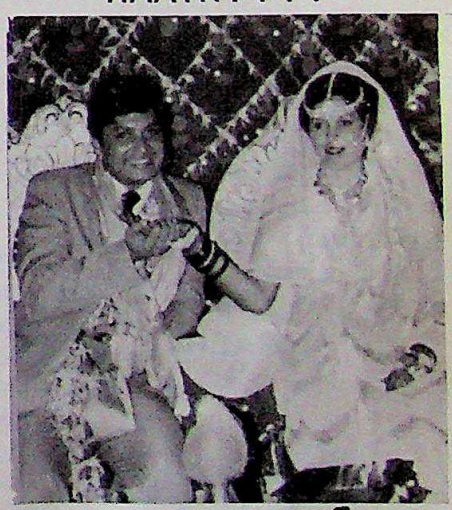
CANADA

RECOGNIZED

Naju Shroff, the first woman to be elected to the council of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Ontario.

SINGAPORE

HAATHON MEIN HAATH . . . .



At the wedding ceremony which took place at the President Hotel in Bombay, Groom Suresh is all smiles as he holds hand of his charming bride Meenu. Meenu is the daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Ramchand C. Thadani of Singapore and Suresh is the son of Mr. & Mrs. Naraindas W. Bhabani of Bombay.

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ENVOY TO CUBA

Mr. V. C. Khanna, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs, has been appointed Ambassador to Cuba.

ENVOY TO SWEDEN

Mr. Kamalnain Bakshi, till recently joint secretary to the Prime Minister, has been appointed India's Ambassador to Sweden. He is expected to assume charge in September, according to the spokesman of the external affairs ministry. Mr. Bakshi has over two decades of service behind him. He had served in seven countries. Before joining the foreign service, Mr. Bakshi was a professor.

BARNES, NEW US ENVOY, RECALLS FORMER TIES

"This is where I started out," Mr. Harry G. Barnes Jr., who has been named by President Ronald Reagan as Ambassador to India. It was a reference to Barnes's appointment to his first Foreign Service post in the Consulate in Bombay, but he could also have emphasized that India was also where his second daughter, Adrienne, "started out," since she was born in Bombay in 1953. It may turn out that the United States has never had an Ambassador to India with closer ties to New Delhi than Barnes, whose first post abroad came when he was sent to India in 1951. He now spends half of every day studying Hindi, adding it to the foreign languages he already knows — French, Nepali, Romanian, Spanish, Russian and German.

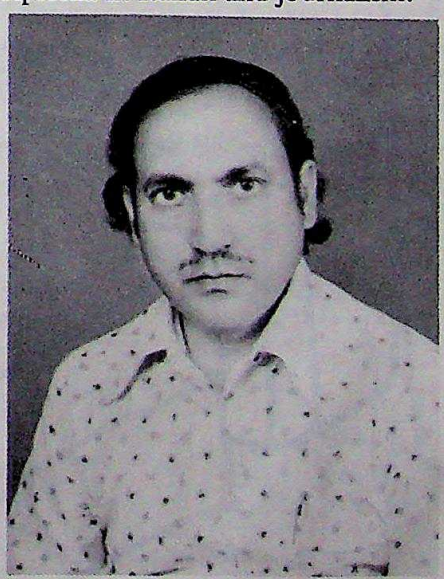
— Irvin Molotsky

YEMEN-INDIA LINK

The Ambassador of Yemen Arab Republic, Mr. Ahmed Mohammad Haider presenting his credentials to the President N. Sanjiva Reddy, at Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi.

YOGIC DIPLOMAT

Mr. J.D.M. Gupta will be serving in the Embassy of India in Jakarta, Indonesia as the Administration Attache. Mr. Gupta is known to be naturotherapist and yoga research scholar. He also holds diploma in Italian and journalism.



J.D.M. Gupta

PAT FOR INDIAN AMBASSADOR

The renowned Polish poet and winner of this year's Nobel prize for literature, Mr. Czeslan Milosz, has commended the translation into English of one of his poems by the Indian Ambassador in Warsaw, Mr. M.R. Sivaramakrishnan. Mr. Milosz, who now lives in the United States, has written to Mr. Sivaramakrishnan that the American translators of his poetical works have found the translation "accurate and of good literary value."

NEW NIGERIAN COMMISSIONER

The New Nigerian High Commissioner, Mr. A. O. Asiwaju Dada, recently presented his credentials to the President N. Sanjiva Reddy in New Delhi.

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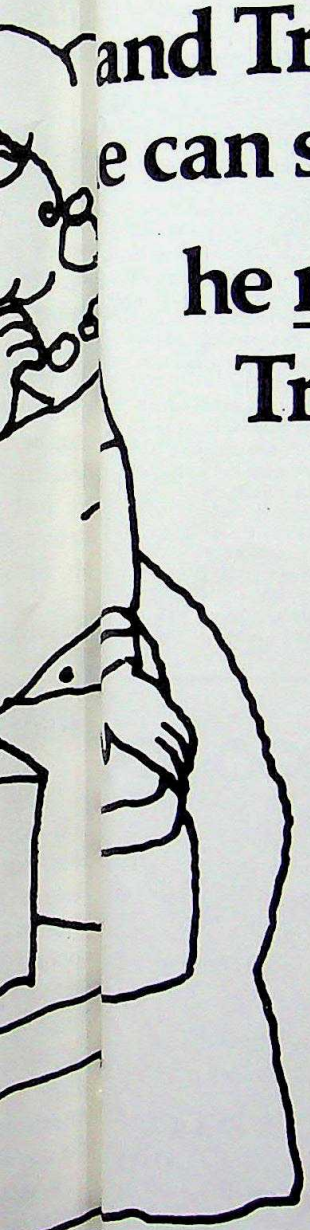
he must be an Air-India Traffic Officer.



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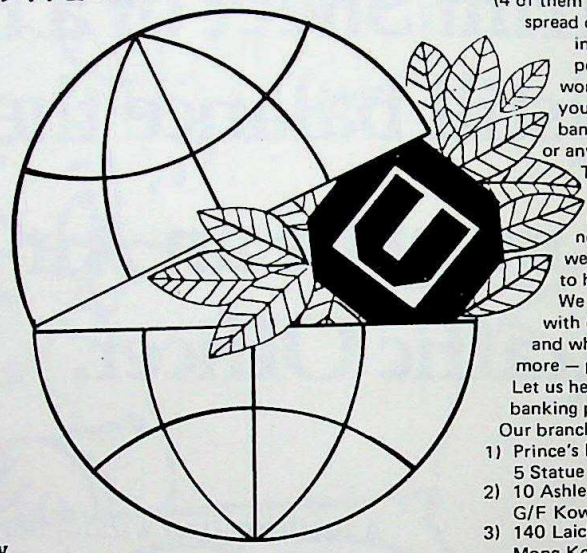

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LLOWSHIP AWARD

he India Council of Social ce Research, New Delhi, awarded a fellowship to sghar Ali Engineer to work he "Continuity and change e dynamics of Muslim pro- in India" according to the al board of the Dawoodi a community.

PASS-BOOKS OR LAND-OWNERS

he Bihar minister for re- e and land reforms, Mr. an Chaudhry, said recently land-owners all over the would be issued pass-books aining information regarding size of their holdings and particulars as was already done in Madhya Pradesh, rashtra, Andhra Pradesh everal other states.

MILLIONS BATHE DURING ECLIPSE

illions of Hindu pilgrims on 31 took ritual purification in lakes and rivers during rtial eclipse of the sun visible northern parts of India. t a million people bathed akes at Kurukshetra and than a million performed milar ritual in the Ganges in Calcutta.

'NARGIS' CANCER UNIT PROPOSED

A "Critical Care Unit" to be named after Mrs. Nargis Dutt would be set up at the Tata Memorial Hospital in two years, Dr. H. N. Sethna, chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission and chairman of the Tata Memorial Centre, which runs the hospital and the Cancer Research Institute, said in Bombay recently.

The proposed unit will be equipped with sophistication technology of the type used in the U.S. where Mrs. Dutt underwent treatment.

Dr. Sethna said funds for the unit would be raised by a trust named after Mrs. Dutt.

SPORTS BOOK IS PLANNED

The Indian Institute of Sports in Patiala plans to issue an encyclopedia on sports.

Institute Director R.L. Anand told journalists in Chandigarh that the venture was part of the celebration of the completion of the institute's two decades of operation.

The book, which is expected to contain more than 1,000 pages, will give the rules of various games, "who's who" section on leading sports figures and detailed account of famous Indian sports people.

Because India is host to the Asian Games next year, the encyclopedia will focus on them and describe the Olympics, the Commonwealth Games and other international meets.

GDR EDITION OF TAGORE'S WORK

A new edition of selected works by Rabindranath Tagore is being prepared in the German Democratic Republic.

On the 40th death anniversary of the Nobel prize winner in August, Volk and Welt, publishers, will bring out the first volume with the novel, "Gora," which is an impressive description of ethic and social problems in India in his days.

Next year, an omnibus volume, with "Cokher Bali" and "Ghare Baire," will be on the market.

In the German Democratic Republic, Tagore is one of the most popular foreign writers. Since the foundation of the GDR in 1949, his works have been published in several editions.

HOCKEY TEAM WILL TOUR EUROPE

Fullback Surjit Singh of Punjab will lead an 18-member Indian men's field hockey team on its tour of Europe starting this month. Goalkeeper Ashok Dewan of the Railways is Vice Captain.

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BENGAL COLLEGE IS 125 YEARS OLD

The Bengal Engineering College of Sibpore, India, will celebrate its 125th anniversary this year, a press release said.

DR. P. L. AGARWAL

Dr P. L. Agarwal, former chairman of the Steel Authority of India, is the recipient this year of the coverted award from the West German Government known as Bundsdienst Kreutz-Ersteklasse, which is the German cross for meritorious service. This is the highest civilian award given by Bonn to any foreigner.

RAMASESHAN TAKES OVER IIS POST

Prof. S. Ramaseshan, a well-known scientist, will take over directorship of the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, from Prof. S. Dhawan, who retired recently. Prof. Ramaseshan, author of more than 150 scientific papers is a recipient of the Jawaharlal Nehru Fellowship, the Sir S.S. Bhatnagar prize and the "Vasvik" Award.

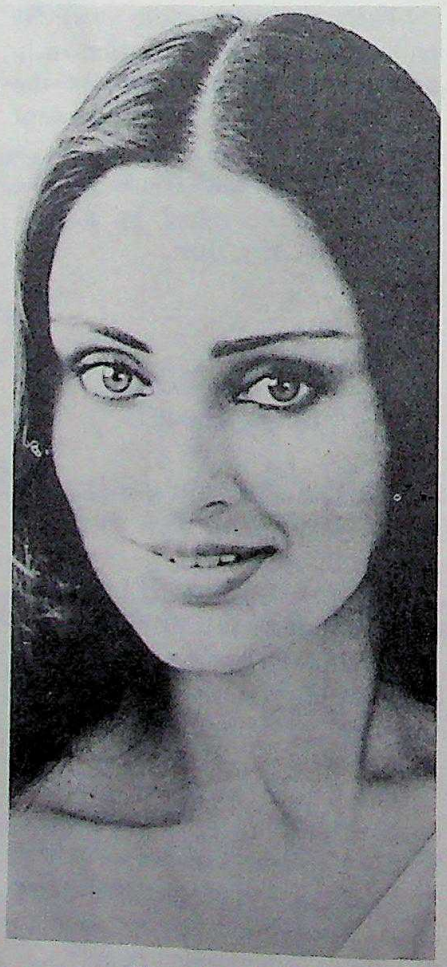
SPECIAL POSTAL COVER

The posts and telegraphs department will issue a special cover on August 14, to mark the silver jubilee celebration of the Oil and Natural Gas commission. The special cover which costs 10 paise each will carry a multi-colour picture of 'sagar vikas'.

MODEL STUDENT

Livening up the Goldspot, Brooke Bond, Stanrose and Wills Made For Each Other ads, is Upneet Pannu, 21, who has arrived on the Bombay scene like a breath of fresh air.

Already being flooded with offers, Upneet is cutting down on ads. "You tend to get over-exposed," she says with planned precision and she has rejected offers for live modelling because, "it is just too much hard work." Upneet, who likes to laze around, listen to music and read books, has just finished her B.A. through correspondence. She is rather serious about becoming a lawyer. "My modelling only goes on part-time," she says. The Navy Queen in 1979, Upneet represented India in the Miss Asia contest last year.



Upneet Pannu

INT'L TRADE FAIR

The India International Trac Fair 1981, will have, for the fir time-ever, Pakistan as a participar in any such fair in India. Among the 43 countries that have confirm ed their participation, Pakistan wi have the second largest pavilion.

The Soviet Union will have th biggest pavilion, taking up 2,50 sq. mt., while Pakistan will occup 2,000 sq. mt.

The fair, which will begin o Nov. 14 and go on till Dec. 4, expected to bring in an income over Rs 2 crore, said the chairma of the Trade Fair Authority o India, Mr Mohammad Yunus.

The Authority has relaxed ce tain rules and regulations since th last Fair and now countries bringin in goods will be allowed retai sale as well as gifting the good they have brought in. The ceilin will be sale up to Rs 50 lakh fo national pavilions, depending o the size of it and Rs 15 lakh fo private parties.

GERMAN FIRM TO AID IN VTR MANUFACTURE

Colour-Compatible videotape recorders for Doordarshan will be manufactured in India in collaboration with a German company which has also agreed to provide the next-generation digital technology, currently under development. The Gujarat Communications and Electronics Ltd., Baroda, has signed an agreement with Bosch under which Indian workers will be exposed to the research and development activity of the company.

Some 45 machines will be supplied to Doordarshan over the next four years and 30 machines may be required by other users. The total cost of this equipment is estimated at Rs. 16 crores.

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HMT GOES ELECTRONIC

dia's Watch Industry enter-e electronic era this month the release of the first of HMT-made electronic hes by the Minister of for Industries, Dr. Char-Chanana.

SECOND MEDAL FOR SATISH

atish Kumar bagged a nd medal when he took a in the marathon at XIV ld Games for the deaf at gne last month. Earlier, he won a bronze in the 10,000 es.

BEDI IS ON CRICKET TEAM

ormer Indian Captain en Singh Bedi has been uded in a 15-member inter-onal cricket team that will e a four-week tour of stan beginning September

PAK COTTON

dia will import 100,000 of medium-staple cotton in unusual deal with Pakistan, pokesman of the Cotton poration of India (CCI) said.

JAPANESE FIRM TO SUPPLY BALLS

A Japanese firm, Mikasa, will ply balls for handball, foot-, volleyball, basketball and er polo during the New hi Asian Games.

A Fashion and Beauty Extravaganza to launch the Taj Beauty Parlour and Hair Dressing Salon was held at the Diwan-i-am, Taj Mahal Hotel, New Delhi. The invited audience were treated to a dazzling display of outfit designed by 'Girl Boutique'. The fashion show led by Shahzadi Mahjabeen Sultan provided a glimpse into the kind of beauty treatments and hair styles offered.

Photo: Sales dept., Taj Mahal Hotel, New Delhi.

MOVE FOR 14-CARAT GOLD ORNAMENTS REJECTED

The government has rejected a proposal for re-introduction of 18 or 14-carat gold jewellery by stages. "There will be no change in the present policy relating to 22-carat jewellery", the finance ministry announced recently. The re-introduction of 18 or 14 carat by stages was supported in principle by a committee set up by the Janata government in 1978 to review the gold policy.

BEG PROMISES TO LOOK INTO SINDHIS' PROBLEMS

The chairman of the minorities commission, Mr. Justice M.H. Beg, has promised to look into the problems of linguistic minorities, including the Sindhi community. This assurance was given by Mr. Justice Beg to Mr. Nari H. Gursahani, president of the All-India Sindhi panchayats' federation, when the latter called on him at Raj Bhavan recently.

Mr. Gursahani had earlier presented a memorandum of demands to the chairman. Among the demands were the establishment of a Sindhi academy in Maharashtra, non-interference with the educational institutions run by the minority group, and adequate representation of the community in the state legislative council, zilla parishad and other state bodies.

GOVT. BANS EXPORT OF IVORY GOODS

The government has clamped a total ban on export of ivory goods made from India ivory. However, goods made out of imported African ivory and declared upto February 1980, will be allowed to be exported upto March 31, 1982. After that date no export of goods, whether made out of Indian or African ivory, will be allowed to be exported, a commerce ministry announced through a public notice in New Delhi recently.

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NEPALI LANGUAGE

The government will explore the possibility of introducing an official bill for the inclusion of the Nepali language in the eighth schedule of the constitution, during the November session of Parliament.

SOLAR CELLS

India has developed indigenous capability for first time to manufacture solar cells on commerical lines. Bangalore based Control Equipment Division of public sector BHEL has undertaken to manufacture and supply 100,000 space qualified solar cells TISRO in next five years.

DEVOTEES THRONG SHIVA TEMPLE

Over two lakh pilgrims offered prayers to the Dwadesh Jyotirlingam of Lord Shiva at the Baidyanathdham temple. More than one million pilgrims had worshipped at the temple since July 17 when the one-month-long "sravani mela" commenced in Deoghar.

HAJ PANEL CHIEF

Mr. Mustafa Fakih has been elected chairman of the Haj committee for 1981-82 according to a press note from the committee in Bombay. Mr. Syed Sahabuddin, MP, and Mr. Mohammed Amin Kahandwani, MLA, were elected vice-chairman.

INDIA NOW FULL MEMBER OF I.C.C.

India has become a full member of Inspectorate Coordination Committee (ICC), a high level technical body consisting of quality control experts from a number of countries.

It controls the day-to-day functioning of the scheme for quality assessment system for electronics components. The scheme has been encouraged by the International Electro-technical Commission (IEC) Geneva, and is managed by a Certification Management Committee (CMC). India has been accepted as a full member of CMC also.

WOMEN'S RAJ IN EDUCATION

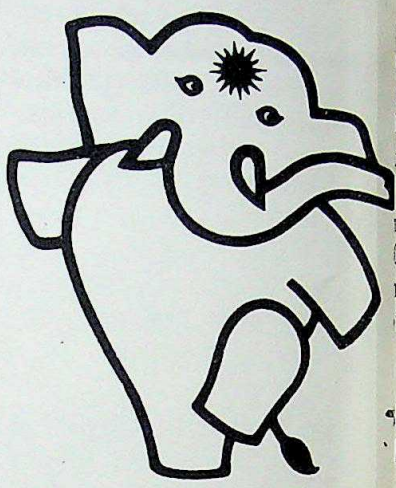
The ministry for education, culture and social welfare – largely a male citadel hitherto – has passed into the hands of an all-women group of policy-makers.

Mrs. Sheila Kaul, took over independent charge of the ministry from Mr. S.B. Chavan on his moving to Yojana Bhavan. Mrs. Anna Malhotra, first woman to enter the Indian administrative service in 1951, took over from Mr. T.N. Chaturvedi as secretary of the departments of education and culture. Simultaneously, Mrs. Sarla Grewal took over from Mr. A.S. Gill as secretary of the department of social welfare.

ALL WOMAN BANK

A women's cooperative bank run and manned by women has been permitted to open two more branches in the Bombay city by the Reserve Bank of India in view of its "impressive performance". The 'Surat Mahila Nagrik Sahakari' Bank, started seven years ago, had declared the maximum permissible dividend of 12 percent to its share holders, according to its chairman Mrs. Shantiben Bhukhanwala.

ELEPHANT IS ASIAD MASCOT



The prancing baby elephant, chosen as the mascot of the Asian Games to be hosted by India starting November 19, 1982, has been named Appu.

Asiad Special Committee President and central Minister Buta Singh said the name had been chosen after scrutinizing a number of suggestions received from all over the country.

The elephant was chosen as the mascot as it is loved all over the world for wisdom, strength, and loyalty. In India, it is considered particularly auspicious and figures prominently in mythology and folklore.

RADIO-PAGING SYSTEM FOR PUNE TELEPHONES

Pune Telephones will shortly introduce the radio-paging system first of its kind in India, which will enable a subscriber to contact a person even though he cannot be reached on the telephone. The working of this sytem is carried out by Pune Telephones in association with the telecom research centre of the Poona T. department in New Delhi.

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UNICEF ENVOY WITH PM

Prince Talal Bin Aziz Al-Saud of Saudi Arabia who in his capacity as the Special Envoy of UNICEF called on the Prime Minister at her office in South Block.

Photo: PIB New Delhi.

MUSICIANS GET WARDS OF $12,500

mangudi Srinivas Aiyer, Car- music artist, and Mallikarjun r,. a Hindustani musician, ly received awards at a func- n Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh. Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi ted the two artists with 00 from the Madhya Pradesh ment for promoting arts in untry.

ULGARIANS PLAN FILM ON INDIRA

ns by the Bulgarian film y to produce a movie about Prime Minister Mrs. Indira i were made known in Delhi by Miss Kumud Joshi, Deputy Minister for In- ion and Broadcasting, on her from a recent two-week visit to the Soviet Union and Bulgaria.

The film will be made by the Bulgarian writer-producer, Tomo Tomov, well-known for his films on eminent personalities. Tomov plans to depict India through Gandhi's eyes.

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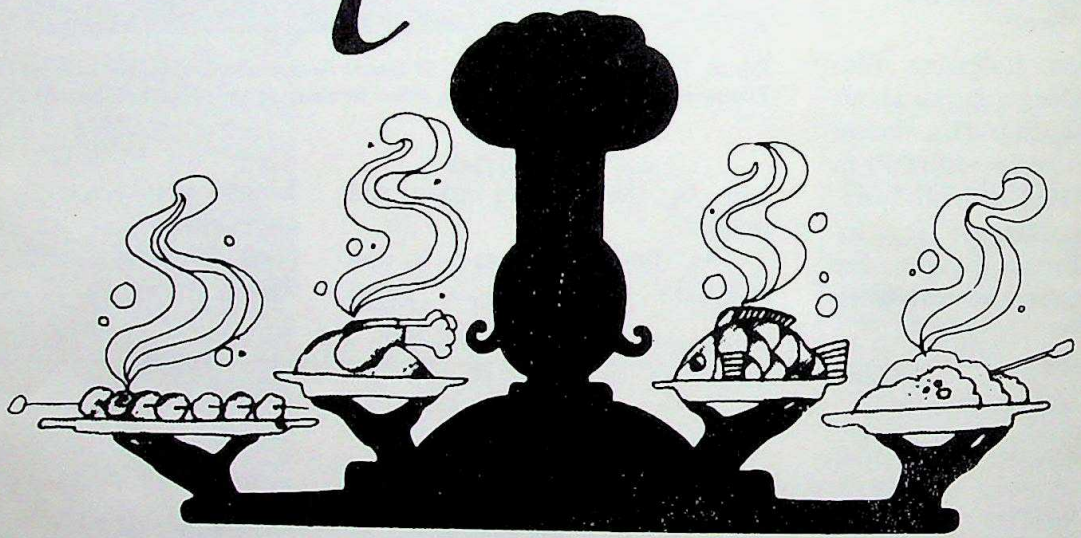

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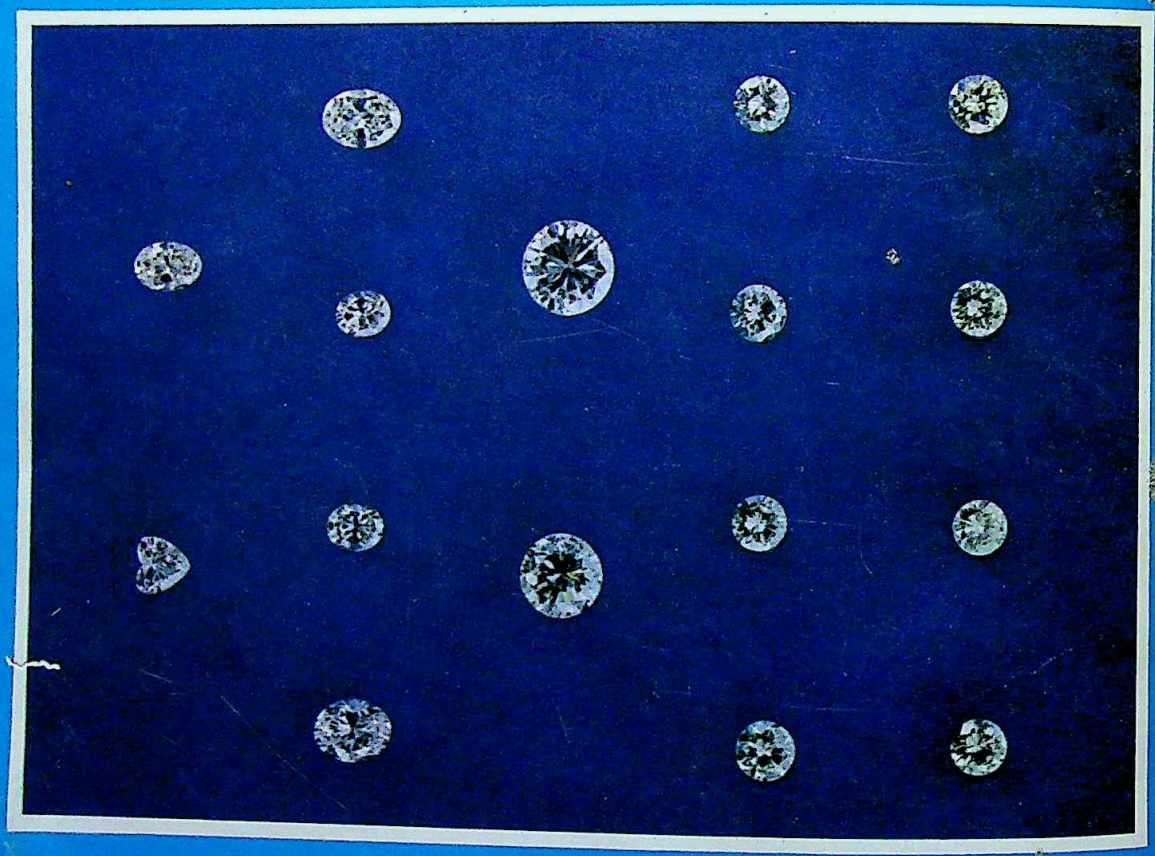

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